

Mount Rundle

*Photo by Harmon*

*The*  
*Woman's Missionary*  
*Society*  
*in Alberta*

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The  
History of the  
Woman's Missionary Society  
In Alberta  
The United Church of Canada

"We honour the past,  
We record the present,  
We dedicate the future."

— Watchwords —

The World for Christ  
Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts  
Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it.



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## FOREWORD

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On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada, many members became curious about the history of its beginning and progress during the first quarter of a century. How had it fared?

We, of the Woman's Missionary Society, as an organization of the Church, felt the same urge to search the records. Here in Alberta our quest for history was somewhat difficult because of the absence of an adequate and complete story, available in one volume.

In consequence of this lack, and so that future inquirers might be more easily assisted, we have attempted this little book of history of the organization, work and workers of the W.M.S. in Alberta.

At Branch meeting in Edmonton, March, 1949, an Archives Committee was appointed. Its members are: Mrs. G. E. Forbes, Mrs. A. M. Scott, Mrs. W. Robertson, Mrs. G. H. Villett and Mrs. F. E. Graham.

Our early decision was to collect historical data and later publish it in one book. We appealed to the Presbyterials to aid us, and they responded generously. Members of the Archives Committee have been active as well, and now after sorting and arranging our supply of material, we present it to you in this little book.

We hope you will find it interesting reading and that from its stories you will feel inspired and impelled to carry on faithfully and worthily, the work begun by courageous and consecrated pioneers.

(Mrs. F. E.) Lena M. Graham,

Convener

Calgary

1951





## CHAPTER I

### HOW THE CHURCH CAME TO ALBERTA

#### *Methodist*

Church History in Alberta is modern history,—it is within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. For it was in 1871 that Rev. George McDougall, that stalwart exponent of Methodism, came to Edmonton and gathered around him a small band of men and women with pioneering religious zeal and enthusiasm, who hewed the trees and shaped the logs to build for themselves a place of worship. Gradually a church came into being, the forerunner of today's McDougall Church.

This was the first Wesleyan church as well as the first Protestant church in Alberta, just as McDougall's predecessor, Robert Rundle, a young Cornishman, had been the first Protestant missionary to the West. Rundle had come to Canada in response to an appeal in 1840 for missionaries to work "among the settlers and native tribes of that vast region of North America under the protection and chiefly at the expense of the Hudson's Bay Company." Rundle gave himself to work among the Indians during his eight years in Canada until he was forced by ill-health to return to England. He was greatly beloved by the Indians and white men alike, and in gratitude and proud remembrance his name has been given to a beautiful snow-capped mountain peak in the Canadian Rockies, near Banff, towering 9840 feet above sea level... Keeping his memory green too is Rundle Memorial United Church in Banff, built of stone from the mountain itself, and out on the grounds is the Stone commemorating the 100th anniversary of his coming to Banff. All these—the glorious mountain peak, the Christian church, the Stone of remembrance—all these are reminders that "there once trod the foothills of Alberta one who walked humbly with his God, drank of the brook by the way, and lifted his eyes to Everlasting Hills."

When George McDougall made his first visit to Fort Edmonton in 1862, coming out as the Chairman of the District which extended from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains, he was amazed to find many among the Stoney Indians living a Christian life, the result of Rundle's teaching and example. But the need for more workers was very urgent, and with only two mails a year, McDougall felt that a written appeal to Missionary Headquarters for help would be almost useless. He must go himself, although it meant a long, hard journey. We are told that his visit in 1868 "to the newly formed Dominion was one of the historical milestones of Canadian Methodism." His appeal was successful and when he returned he brought with him outstanding leaders for the work in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. At his own request he himself was posted to Edmonton. "At that time," he writes, "Edmonton was the metropolis of the whole Western country. It was only 1200 miles from a railroad and some thousand miles from a telegraph office, and there were no regular mail communications."

It was here in 1871 that George McDougall and his people built a church, and the next year it was opened to the praise and glory of God. It was a tribute to him and as well to the pioneering religious zeal of those who worked side by side with him, as they shaped the logs and filled all the chinks with mud, singing Wesley's hymns as they built what was to be their place of worship. In that first log church, for which McDougall made the pulpit with his own hands, was installed the first little organ ever to be seen in the far West. We are told that "there were tears in the eyes of the people at the Mission when they heard for the first time the strains of music from the little organ which George McDougall purchased in Winnipeg and brought out in 1871."

The church was opened for services in 1872 and an interesting piece of church history was begun. There it stands today, side by side with its modern successor—a large brick structure with Norman architecture—a monument to the indomitable courage and consecrated zeal of the pioneers, "a humble building, yet a holy place."

"There with their simple tools, their sweat, their tears,  
They hewed and sawed and built and gave God praise, . . .  
A simple structure, yet sublimely grand,  
Built by a workman's heart and willing hand.  
And here, where now a modern city rears  
Its mighty sky-line for a world to see,  
Still stands, with logs they hauled—those gallant souls—  
And whip-sawn lumber, stands for you and me,  
This dwelling place of God, this precious shrine,  
McDougall's church—What memories are thine!"

(J. T. Stephens 1945)

In 1875 Rev. George McDougall moved to Morley, west of Calgary, where his son Rev. John McDougall, who had come West with his father, had established in 1871 an Indian Mission, which was afterwards to be the McDougall Orphanage. In 1876 George McDougall while on a hunting expedition out from Morley, became lost in a blizzard and died on the prairies he loved so well. In the present, beautiful McDougall church in Edmonton appears this fitting tribute; "Men of different creeds and politics have been unanimous in their testimony to the Catholicity of his spirit, unflinching courage, daring unselfishness and statemanship."

In the Burial ground at Morley not far from the monument erected to the memory of the great pioneer missionary, George McDougall, is a suitable memorial recording the life and death of the first woman



*Miss Barrett*

(1878) . . . An heroic soul was this pioneer woman, who lived and taught among the Indians for several years."

When Miss Barrett visited her home in Ontario in 1885 she interested the women of the district in missions and organized their first W.M.S. She also started their first Mission Band in Orono, one of the earliest in Canada.

But she could not be persuaded to remain in Ontario; her heart was in Morley and she was glad to return to her teaching task there. She was able to give two more years of devoted service before she became ill and passed away in 1888 at the McDougall homestead, lovingly cared for and sincerely mourned by the many who had learned from her the meaning of friendship and Christian love.

#### EDUCATION

Like many pioneer missionaries, George McDougall had from the first been an enthusiastic advocate of Education, and when he chose the site for the church he had in his mind also a place for a future school and college building. With this impetus and incentive, a day school, the first Protestant school in Edmonton was established in 1871 soon after the Mission was opened. This was under the patronage of McDougall church and the Methodist Missionary Society until 1881, when a Citizen's Committee voluntarily assumed responsibility for four years, at which time the first Public School was built and School District No. 7 of the North West Territories was legally established.

This first Protestant school was the forerunner of the two great educational institutions under the United Church of Canada—Alberta College, built on the original site, part of the homestead which McDougall bequeathed to the Methodist Church for missionary and educational purposes; and St. Stephen's College, the United Church Theological College on the University Campus. The present Ed-

monton School system may also look back with admiration and respect to its Founder and Predecessor—the little Protestant school of 1871.

#### CALGARY

"Like father, Like son." was true of the McDougalls. Together and separately they had visited the Indian Missions in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and had been instrumental in organizing mission work among some of the Indian tribes in and near Edmonton. To John belongs the honor of establishing the Mission at Morley and at Fort Macleod as well as assisting in several other places.

In 1875 he came to Calgary and there in the old Mounted Police Barracks he conducted the first Methodist service—the first service to be held of any denomination—in southern Alberta. For two years the people gathered for their services in the store of I. G. Baker and Co., but in the summer of 1877 John McDougall built the first Methodist church—a little log church that was sold after three years and a more pretentious one erected. This one was made of boards half way up the side and completed with a tent roof. To this church and its congregation the Methodist Church appointed Rev. James Turner as minister in 1883. It is a significant and interesting fact, in the light of our United Church today, that the Methodists used this church in the morning and the Presbyterians in the evening. During the ensuing years the church was moved and enlarged three or four times, until the present Central Church was built and opened in February, 1905—the mother of all the Methodist churches in Calgary.

#### GENERAL

Like the messengers who carried the Fiery Cross, the pioneer missionaries went from settlement to settlement in this new country, preaching and teaching and establishing churches that were to be beacon lights for the years to come. Their duties and the services they were expected to perform were set forth for them by their Church. It was a noble and comprehensive statement and that they accepted it in humility and faith is proven by the results of their work. Their duties were set down in this fashion;

"To labour daily for the welfare of their flocks, by preaching the Word in every destitute settlement; to distribute the Holy Scriptures to the destitute; to exhort to peace and the support of the civil authorities; to encourage the establishment of Sabbath Schools; to recommend economy, decency and industry; to press the worship of God in every family; to visit the sick and assist the poor; to administer the ordinances; to labour for and suffer with their flocks, and to do all in their power to bring sinners to repentance, and thereby endeavour to extend the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom."

#### EARLY CHURCHES

If space permitted it would be interesting to follow them through the closing years of the 19th century and note the progress they had

made even before the organization of the Alberta Methodist Conference in 1904. Such a record would include the formation of many churches and congregations, among which would be the following;

1871 Edmonton (McDougall Church) Fort Saskatchewan, Namao, etc.

1875 Calgary (Central)

1878 Fort Macleod - Henry Manning

1883 Medicine Hat - Wellington Bridgeman

1884 Slave Lake - E. R. Steinhauer

1887 Banff - C. Williams

1887 High River - J. F. Davis —

1887 Red Deer - W. N. Vrooman

1889 Gleichen and Elbow River - F. W. Locke

1889 Lethbridge - James Endicott

And so the church grew through the years. Years of progress they were, but they were also years of hardship, privation and adversity for the missionaries and their wives. We pay tribute to them as we think of the role they played as they laid the foundations truly and well in this great new western country.

### *Presbyterian*

#### EDMONTON

It was a far cry from Canada to the city of Leipsic in Germany, where a young Canadian student, Andrew B. Baird, was pursuing his theological studies, and where in May 1881 he received word of his first appointment as a missionary. He was to undertake work at Edmonton in the little known and expansive North West of Canada. When he returned from Germany in August he was ordained in his home church at Motherwell, Ont. and at once set out for his new field. Of this trip he afterwards wrote, "The railway carried me as far as Winnipeg, but for the western part of the journey I had to depend on equipment provided by myself. I bought a horse and buckboard in Winnipeg, a tent and blankets, a few cooking utensils, and a supply of provisions. Nearly all of the journey had to be performed alone. I travelled by way of Portage la Prairie, spent a Sunday at Fort Qu'Appelle where I held a service with the Mounted Police and Hudson's Bay men, then at Duck Lake, where I attended Mass in the morning with Pere Andre and held a Protestant service in the afternoon; at Battleford I spent a week because of bad weather, the guest for most of the time of Lieutenant Governor Laird, and then came the long stretch of nearly 300 miles without an inhabitant between Battleford and Edmonton. During this period I was for four days without seeing a mortal, putting up my tent each evening, tethering my horse, cooking my supper, and sleeping with the howling of wolves as a lullaby."

But he received a great welcome when he reached Edmonton where a small group of people had been eagerly awaiting the coming of their missionary.

Services at first were held in a hall or loft above a granary, but the people were enthusiastic and the next summer a comfortable church was erected, accommodating about 200 people. Exactly one year from the date of the first service, on November 5th, 1882, the congregation of First Church was organized and worshipped in its own church. Several outside points were contacted and services held at Belmont, Sturgeon River, Fort Saskatchewan, and Clover Bar. The work expanded so rapidly that in two years the Home Mission Board sent an assistant to help Mr. Baird. The first young assistant was John L. Campbell, then James Hamilton, A. S. Grant and in 1887 D. G. McQueen, who later that year became Mr. Baird's successor, when he left to become Professor in Manitoba College.

Of these early years, Mr. Baird, afterwards Dr. Baird) wrote, "It was work of the most inspiring character, there certainly was no overlapping in those days; the minister received the heartiest kind of welcome, even from men who paid but little attention to church matters; and he had at his beck and call, especially in Edmonton and in the nearby places where regular services were held, a loyal band of workers who were always ready to deny themselves in the way of Christian service."

During the construction of the railway between Calgary and Edmonton, Mr. McQueen and his assistants pioneered for the church all along the way, following the workers from point to point until the work was completed and train service began in 1891. For 40 years Mr. McQueen (afterwards Dr. McQueen) gave devoted service to his congregation and to the City of Edmonton and maintained the spirit and effort of his pioneering days.

#### CALGARY

During these early years while the Presbyterian church was being established in the northern districts of what is now called Alberta, a young missionary was being prepared to carry the torch into the southern central area. On May 24th, 1883 Rev. Angus Robertson was licensed, ordained and inducted as a missionary to the Calgary field by the Presbytery of Manitoba, which had been formed in 1869 and which covered the whole Canadian West. Mr. Robertson conducted his first service early in June 1883 in a general store owned by I. G. Baker, who had extended this same privilege a few years earlier to the Methodists. Later the Mounted Police Hospital was used, and for a time the Methodists and Presbyterians shared the use of the tent-roofed building built by the Methodists. After a time through the efforts of Col. James Walker the first Presbyterian church was built at a cost of \$1000 and the congregation of Knox church was organized in November 1883. The town proceeded to grow rapidly and the church was rebuilt and the situation changed several times to keep pace with changing conditions. In addition to strengthening his own congregation, Mr. Robertson travelled far and wide with the Gospel message. We mention but a few of those early church settlements. In 1883 when Angus Robertson was driving from the end of steel at Maple Creek, Sask. to Calgary, he stopped over for

services at Medicine Hat, and the following year a church was built to accommodate several hundred people. In 1884 a student missionary, W. P. MacKenzie was given charge of a territory extending from Crow's Nest Pass and Pincher Creek to Lethbridge, then known as Coalbanks. The first communion service at Lethbridge was held in the boarding house of the Alberta Rail and Coal Co. in 1884 with ten persons present. The next year a church was built which for a time was used also by the Methodists and Baptists in this rapidly growing community. In 1886 Rev. Chas. McKillop, one of the church's pioneers in Alberta, came to minister to this congregation and during his 18 years of service he "became a true leader in the town, strong and muscular, always fearless and outspoken, a genial warrior and a terror to evil-doers," to quote from The Lethbridge Herald.

At Pincher Creek a number of Presbyterian families had been asking for church privileges and Mr. MacKenzie ministered to them and to others at Fort Macleod, until the Riel Rebellion broke out in 1885 and he left to go as Chaplain with a local regiment.

Banff congregation was organized in 1886 with Rev. A. N. Cameron and later Rev. C. W. Gordon (Ralph Connor) in charge. Namao in 1885 was supplied from Edmonton for three years until W. A. Bradley became minister. In 1887 Knox College sent a student, afterwards Rev. Wm. Neilly, to start the work at Red Deer. He was the first missionary of any church to be located and begin work in the whole Red Deer district.

In 1887 the Presbytery of Calgary was formed with boundaries "truly majestic in their sweep," and with the Arctic Sea as its northern limit. Ralph Connor writes in "The Life of James Robertson," "Here are the names of the fields constituting this, the greatest Presbytery the world has ever seen; Indian Head, Lethbridge, Fort Macleod, High River, Calgary, Edmonton, Fort Saskatchewan, Red Deer, Cochrane, Banff, Anthracite, Donald, and Revelstoke. And here are the names of the men to whose care this stupendous Presbytery is entrusted; Messrs. Jas. Herald, Chas. McKillop, R. C. Tibb, Angus Robertson, J. C. Herdman, A. B. Baird and Alex N. Cameron. By the appointment of General Assembly the first meeting of this great Presbytery is to be held on the third Tuesday of July, 1887, and of this Presbytery the first Moderator is to be Rev. Angus Robertson, well known and greatly loved by all who toiled with him as a Western missionary during his all too brief life."

In 1890 Rev. Angus Robertson passed away and memorials to him and his extensive work stand today in the Robertson Memorial church at Maple Creek, Sask., the church in Donald, B.C., and in his own first church, Knox in Calgary, where the tablet pays tribute to him as a "Pioneer missionary in the Western land."

With unwearied zeal and devotion, with faith and courage, these pioneer preachers met the responsibilities and opportunities of their day and opened doors of service for those who came after them.

## *Congregational*

The first non-Episcopal church in Canada was established by the Congregationalists in Halifax in 1749. It claimed among its membership many of those whose fathers and grandfathers had come over in the Mayflower, bringing with them their Independent or Congregational church organization. Of this, one of its leaders wrote, "The organization while admirably suited for the development of religious freedom lacked the oversight and fellowship so necessary in the far-scattered churches of the early days." Perhaps that is one reason why the Congregational cause in Canada has from the first been a small one. For over seventy years they received help from the Colonial Missionary Society in London, whose purpose was to plant Congregational churches in all the colonies. With this help assured Congregationalism went forward for a time in the Maritime Provinces, in Quebec, and particularly in Ontario.

The earliest Congregational church in the West, formed in Victoria, B.C. in 1859, encountered difficulties which led to its collapse. No further effort was made to plant churches in the West until 1873 when a representative was sent out who organized two congregations in 1879 and 1881. There is no report of their continued existence. Later the Colonial Missionary Society contributed to the support of a minister in Winnipeg and authorized him to start Congregational churches wherever he saw a good opportunity for them to become self-supporting in a reasonably short time. He visited almost every community in the West, but found no places where a Congregational church could be formed under those stipulated conditions.

Some years later, Central Congregational church, Winnipeg, under the leadership of Rev. J. L. Gordon, became strong and vigorous, and sent out its assistant minister, Rev. J. D. Hamilton, to gather together the scattered groups of Congregationalists throughout the West. When he came to Calgary he found that some Ontario and Quebec Congregationalists had begun regular meetings in the Y.M.C.A. led by energetic and consecrated laymen. In 1910 Rev. A. R. Schrag, minister of the Congregational church in Yarmouth, N.S., was called to be the first minister of this congregation in Calgary. They had already bought the building of St. Paul's Presbyterian church and moved it to a suitable site. Until it was ready, Mr. Schrag conducted his meetings in the Swedish Lutheran Church.

When they were settled in their own church they became a well organized congregation with fine deacons and energetic workers, both men and women. When Mr. Schrag resigned he was succeeded by Rev. Lambert Alexander and later by Rev. P. V. Sampson. Shortly before Union the congregation disbanded, the members joining several of the nearby churches and eventually strengthening the United Church of Canada.

In many of the new settlements in the West among the German-speaking people, the Congregational Church assumed special responsibility for establishing Christian services. In Alberta these



German congregations included Beiseker, Calgary (Ebenezer), Irwin, Medicine Hat (Salem), Trochu (Zion), Hilda, Walsh and Hanna, all of which entered the United Church of Canada at the time of Union.

## THE PIONEER WAY

They hewed a home where forests pressed  
From eye to far horizon's rim;  
Lord, keep our courage high—let not  
Its fearlessness grow dim.

They raised an altar to a faith  
That glorified their laboring;  
Lord, grant us guided toil—may it  
A benediction bring.

They handed down a heritage  
By faith and perseverance won;  
Lord, help us carry forward tasks  
So splendidly begun.

They are the pioneers gone on;  
We are the pioneers to-day;  
—Forbid that we forget to walk  
The pioneering way.

Selected

## CHAPTER II

### BEGINNINGS OF THE W.M.S. IN CANADA AND IN ALBERTA

#### PRESBYTERIAN

As early as 1825 a small group of Presbyterian women in the little village of Princetown, Prince Edward Island, filled with missionary enthusiasm, organized "The Female Society for propagating the Gospel and other Religious purposes," with the object "the glorifying of God by doing good." With their money they bought Bibles and distributed them through the more isolated areas. A few other groups in the Maritimes followed their example, but the Society did not become a permanent organization.

In 1864 the Ladies' Auxiliary Association was formed in the City of Montreal in connection with the French Mission of the Church of Scotland, and as the scope of the work increased and broadened, the organization grew to care for it and became the Woman's Missionary Society of Montreal (French, Home and Foreign).

Later when the early foreign missionaries of the Presbyterian Church returned to Canada from their Overseas fields they presented to the Home Church and especially to the women, the story of the degradation and misery of the women in these heathen countries, and appealed to the church women for help. They told them of work that the men missionaries could not do; of the many avenues of service that required women missionaries for work among the women; and of the need of Christian women teachers for women and children. The Foreign Mission Committee of the Church supported the missionaries in their suggestion that church women should be organized to assist in the Foreign Mission work.

It was a great undertaking for the women. Nothing like it had been done before and there was much discussion as to whether or not the women could do it. But they were equal to the task, and on March 21st, 1876 the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was organized with Mrs. W. MacLaren, wife of the Convener of the Assembly's Foreign Mission Committee, as the first President and Mrs. T. Ewart as its first Secretary. At the first monthly meeting in Knox Church, Toronto, 50 women enrolled as members and they set themselves the task of securing and circulating missionary information direct from the Foreign Mission fields.

Eleven letters from missionaries comprised their efforts that first year and in this small but effective way the study program of the W.M.S. began.

Their first contribution of money was given to the support of two Canadian women, Miss I. Fairweather and Miss Margaret Rodger who had gone to India under the American Presbyterian Board in 1873 and later were transferred to the Canadian Mission at Indore when work was opened there in 1877. With three little girls who

came to her door, Miss Rodger started what afterwards became Indore Girls' High School, an educational institution of high standing.

Although the Society was called a 'Foreign' Missionary Society its scope was broad enough to include some work in Canada, because in those early years missions to Europeans and to the Indians in Western Canada were considered 'foreign work.' To an Indian Reserve near Prince Albert, Sask., the W.F.M.S. sent its first missionary teacher, Miss Lucy Baker, who gave five years of loyal service to this work.

### *Women's Home Missionary Society*

In a very few years Presbyterian women were called upon to undertake more intensive Home Mission work. Again it was a call for help from the men of the Church that brought into being the Women's Home Missionary Society in 1903.

From the Klondyke where four ministers had been sent to work in the mining camps of the gold mines came an urgent appeal for Christian nurses to care for the miners whose health was being jeopardized by pioneer life and hard work and among whom typhoid, pneumonia and other dread diseases had broken out. Rev. John Pringle stationed at Atlin, B.C. realized the seriousness of the situation and it was his stirring appeal to the Home Missions Committee that prompted the organization of the Atlin Nurses' Committee in Toronto on March 15th, 1898. This Committee later became the Women's Home Missionary Society.

The response to Dr. Pringle's call for help was immediate and two nurses, Miss Elizabeth Mitchell and Miss Helen Bone, set out for Atlin at a salary of \$25.00 a month for a period of two years. Their work under difficult circumstances and with little or no equipment was so outstanding that Dr. Pringle wrote "The work of the nurses for one month has done more to make people believe we have the spirit of Christ than a year's preaching could do." In 1900 St. Andrew's Hospital was built at Atlin, the first Presbyterian Mission Hospital in Canada.

The W.H.M.S. soon found much work to do in Canada to meet the needs of the immigrants and strangers flooding into the West, to establish pioneer hospitals and schools in the large foreign settlements of the North West and in many other ways to care for the needy in our own country.

As the work progressed it was found to be very confusing in many local churches to have the women carrying on two Societies with considerable overlapping of duties and of membership. Consequently in 1914 the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Women's Home Missionary Society and the Woman's Missionary Society of Montreal united to face the larger task of the Missionary enterprise at home and abroad, under the name of the Women's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (Western Division).

During these same years the wave of missionary enthusiasm had been growing in the Maritime Provinces, where in September, 1876 the women had organized their Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and had directed their first efforts toward sending a missionary teacher, Miss Annie L. M. Blackadder, to Trinidad, where their church had opened a Mission among the East Indians eight years before. When Home Missions became a part of their program the name of the Society became the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society, and when in 1914 Social Service was included in their work the Society again changed its name to the Woman's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (Eastern Division).

The zeal and enthusiasm of these missionary-minded women spread across the country, "following the steel" and often going beyond it. Women missionaries—educational, evangelistic and medical—were being trained and sent not only to the needy areas of our own country but to India, Korea, Formosa, Honan, South China, Trinidad and British Guiana... The church woman must have a broad mind and a wide vision to be a member of such a Society.

The first Woman's Foreign Missionary Society west of Brandon was organized at Lethbridge on January 20th, 1892 by Mrs. Bremner, wife of Rev. George Bremner who had been for many years pastor of White Lake congregation in the County of Renfrew, Ontario. It was a small but enthusiastic group of seven women who ventured forth into this new and untried pathway. The first officers were

President, Mrs. Chas McKillop

Vice-President, Mrs. Geo. Bremner Jr.

Cor. Secy., Mrs. Geo. Johnston

Rec. Secy., Mrs. McKenzie

Treasurer, Mrs. E. Milne

The offering for the first year was \$28.65; the envelope system of giving was at once adopted and the order given for one dozen sets of envelopes. They had faith that their numbers would increase and their faith was justified.

One of the most devoted and earnest members was a teacher, Miss Janet White, who afterwards became a missionary and who attributed to the W.F.M.S. the inspiration which led her to give her life for full-time Christian service. On October 15th, 1893, Miss White was designated in St. James Square Presbyterian Church, Toronto as a missionary to Central India, where she was one of the most faithful workers and teachers until she was forced to resign because of ill health in 1920.

For the greater part of these 27 years in India Miss White had been associated with the Women's Industrial Home at Indore, "where her many excellencies of mind and heart and Christian fidelity enabled her to carry out most successfully the benevolent ends for which the

Home was instituted. In addition to this she had at three different times acted as Principal of the Indore Girls' High School where she had charge of the important department of the Normal Training classes. For many years she also held the office of Secretary of the Women's Council."

Before she left Lethbridge in 1892 she had assisted Mrs. G. H. Johnston in organizing and superintending the first Foreign Mission Band, and the following year, 1893, at the request of Rev. Mr. McKillop, a Home Mission Band, the only one in the Province, was begun, in order that the children might know the whole work of the Church—home and Foreign.



*Mrs. Chas. McKillop*

It was not until 1906 that a Women's Home Missionary Society was organized in Lethbridge, following the fine example already set by the Home Mission Band and by the women of the Presbyterian Church. In 1914 the two organizations—Home and Foreign—united and became the Women's Missionary Society of Knox Church.

In that year too the Alberta Provincial Society was organized. The first President was Mrs. Chas McKillop of Lethbridge and great tribute is paid her for her untiring efforts in the missionary cause, for her visits and encouraging talks to the small rural auxiliaries and for the inspiration she gave to all with whom she worked. At the time of Union she was unanimously chosen as the first President of Lethbridge Presbyterial, and was sent as a delegate to the Dominion Board meeting in Toronto.

## METHODIST

On June 7th, 1880 Dr. Alexander Sutherland, acting on the request of General Conference, spoke to a small group of women in Centenary Methodist Church, Hamilton. He told of the need for women's energy and enthusiasm in the Mission work of the Church.

As a result of this meeting, and looking forward toward organization of a Woman's Missionary Society, ten ladies were chosen to draft a constitution and by-laws. Later in June these were presented and discussed at a meeting of women of the Methodist Churches and so the first Auxiliary was formed.

Dr. Sutherland continued to speak and write of the need for the Woman's Missionary Society. The Church paper, "The Missionary

Outlook" also made appeals, and urged that organizations be formed with even three members. "The Missionary Outlook" and "The Christian Guardian" encouraged the new organizations and others considering similar action, by reporting new Auxiliaries.

On Nov. 8th, 1881 a Board of Managers was begun. Mrs. Alex Burns was the President and the first Life Member, when the Board was instituted in Wesleyan Ladies' College, Hamilton, Ontario.

The objectives of the Society were: 1. "To send missionaries and teachers to the heathen of our own and foreign lands. 2. To develop and enrich spiritually and intellectually the women of the home Churches." Four fields of endeavour were chosen: 1. The French Mission in Montreal, 2. The Indian Girls' Home at Port Simpson, 3. The McDougall Orphanage in Alberta, 4. The Foreign work in Japan.

1. The French work in Montreal was an object of interest from the first. The Methodist women desired to make the Bible accessible to all who cared to read it. Two Schools were opened followed a little later by The French Protestant Home and The Syrian School. A dream was cherished that through the influence of consecrated Missionaries, native workers would offer themselves and become teachers, preachers and interpreters to their own people.

2. Because Mrs. Thomas Crosby had at one time been a teacher in the Ladies' College in Hamilton and widely known, it is understandable that the first year after the organization of the W.M.S. \$200.25 was raised for the Indian work at Port Simpson, where Mrs. Crosby and her husband labored as Missionaries. From the letters of Rev. Thos. and Mrs. Crosby it was easily apparent that an addition to the missionary house was necessary, as it was overcrowded. So the first money from the new Methodist W.M.S. was used toward the Crosby Girls' Home, and the first missionary, Miss M. Hendrie (later Mrs. E. N. Nicholas) went to serve there, and become foster mother to generations of Indian girls, who received inspiration for Christian living while resident in the Mission Home.

3. Though the pioneer Protestant Missionary—Robert Rundle, had visited the Stoney Indians in the 1840's, the earliest Mission to the Stoney was begun by Rev. John McDougall in 1871. The location of the Mission, now for many years known as Morley, was originally named Morleyville. The Morley part of the name was in tribute to Dr. Morley Punshon, a famous pulpit orator of the last century.

The school at Morley was built in 1882 and known as "The MacDougall Orphanage and Boarding School." From the beginning the W.M.S. evinced an interest in this School and sent large and valuable parcels of clothing from the supply department. Concern aroused by Dr. Sutherland, who told of the great need of the Mission for supplies and funds for maintenance, continued, because of the missionary fervor of the McDougalls and their successors.

The W.M.S. Annual Report for 1889-90 in reporting the work at the Orphanage says: "A cheering uplift, however, has come, in that the long deferred hope of a new building is about to be fulfilled, one to accommodate 40 children being now in course of erection by the Government, with the prospect of others to follow as the need may arise. When new and attractive quarters are provided it is expected that more will be willing to enter, and that here many will learn not only what will make them wise unto salvation but that industries and habits will be acquired which will result in intelligent and useful citizenship."

Other Missions among the Indians about this time were: Woodville Indian Mission established in 1871, Saddle Lake 1887, Red Deer Residential School 1893.

The School at Red Deer was located on three quarters of a section of land three miles west of town. It had accommodation for 90 pupils. Children from the Reserve at Hobbema, Wabamun, Saddle and Good Fish Lakes and a few from Morley, attended there. In 1920 the School at Red Deer closed and a new one opened in Edmonton.

For many years the Methodist W.M.S. in conjunction with the General Board, participated in the work at Morley. Through the years other Indian reserves entered our sphere of concern and supplies of clothing and bedding were sent as required.—Calgary Presbyterial reports in 1923 that complete outfits for two boys and four girls, also one dozen pillow cases, two table cloths, one dozen napkins and money for boots and Christmas gifts were sent to Round Lake Indian School.

4. In December 1882 Miss Martha J. Cartmell was sent as the first Missionary to Japan. She saw the need for Christian Schools for girls, as prominent Japanese women desired to learn English. In the Autumn of 1884 Miss Cartmell's hope was realized in a Girls' School in Tokyo. Later workers praised Miss Cartmell's good judgment and foresight. It almost seemed providential that a School should be opened at that time—"Mrs. Taneda, who had been a pupil at a Presbyterian boarding school at a time when it was almost necessary to bribe parents to send their daughters to a Christian School, married early in life a young banker, who had been educated in the United States. After a few years the Presbyterian School was moved to a distant part of the city, and when Mrs. Taneda was making her first call on her former teacher, she learned that the Methodists were opening two schools near her home, one for boys and one for girls. 'Mai,' she exclaimed, as she clapped her hands in astonishment, 'I have been praying for a Mission School to be built near enough to send Michiko. She is the only one I have, and I do not wish to send her from me. She is only five years old, yet she needs playmates under Christian supervision. I will do all I can to persuade my friends to send their children.'" Mrs. Taneda's response was typical of other Japanese mothers, for the school grew and prospered.

The first annual meeting of the Dominion Board of Managers held Sept. 26th, 1882, reports 20 auxiliaries with 800 members from Chatham

to Halifax. There were 34 Life Members and \$2,916.78 was raised. Board met in Centenary Methodist Church in Hamilton. The officers in charge were: President, Mrs. Alex Burns; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames J. MacDonald, H. Sprague, M. Fawcett, G. P. McKay, Jeffrey, Bascom, Fowler, W. Boice, H. Clarke and J. Lister. Recording Secretary, Mrs. D. B. Chisholm; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. E. S. Strachan; Treasurer, Mrs. F. W. Watkins.

At that Board meeting in 1882 Mrs. Burns in her Presidential address said, "I am thinking this morning of the letters that will be read in this Society in the days to come—perhaps from our sisters that we will send, and it may be from some converts won in distant lands. They will tell us of victories won, of hearts revived and gladdened, that will abundantly repay the hours spent together and the sacrifices we may have made. True we may not all be left to hear those good tidings from afar. One and another of us may have gone. It is enough for us to be assured that we are hastening the day when 'He shall see of the travail of His soul and shall be satisfied.'"

Later several committees were instituted to facilitate the work. They were: 1. Executive, 2. Supply, 3. Literature and Publications, 4. Committee on Indian Work, 5. District Organizers and 6. Conference Representatives.

1. The Executive Committee was composed of officers of Board and the corresponding secretary of each Branch.

2. The Supply Committee received from the Auxiliaries, Circles and Bands, gifts of clothing, bedding etc. and dispensed them as required to Mission Homes and needy families.

3. The Literature and Publications Committee was constituted of one representative for each Branch—but all resident in Toronto. It was their duty to issue the publications for the Society. Orders were received by Miss Annie Ogden, Room 20, Wesley Building, Toronto.

4. The Indian work frequently required communication with the Government and the Committee carried on this correspondence.

5. Each Conference Branch named an Organizer who supervised the work and encouraged new organization.

6. The Conference Representatives were chosen at the Branch meeting. It was their task to present our work at the annual Conference of the Church, with a view to inform and enlist the co-operation of the whole Church.

From the beginning the Society besought its members to pray for the Missionary work. The hour from 5 - 6 o'clock on Sunday afternoon was recognized as a National Prayer Hour, when members over Canada turned to God in prayer to bless the work of Missions. Prayer was considered a requisite of membership as important as a fee or gift. Topics were suggested for prayer through the missionary magazine. For September 1925 the topic was as follows: "For North Honan, S. China and Shanghai, that converts may grow in grace,



that our Missionaries may have the joy of a rich 'harvest', that those engaged in creating a Christian literature may be wisely guided, that more and more the Chinese in Canada may be influenced by our Christian Mission work amongst them and not by the evil around them."

"They builded well, these pioneers, with prayer as a foundation and Christ the chief corner stone. They girded the building with faith, and safeguarded it with the policy which has worked so well, 'We shall earn our money before we spend it'".

In 1886 the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist and Bible Christian joined with the Methodist W.M.S. The Boards were amalgamated and Mrs. Jas. Gooderham became the President of this larger and more representative Methodist Society.

In the Annual Report of the Methodist work for 1891-92 the President Mrs. J. Gooderham and Mrs. E. E. Strachan, who were returning from a visit to the Mission fields in the Orient report that "At Calgary we organized an Auxiliary". The Auxiliary is reported in the 1892-93 Annual report as being the 'Auxiliary in Central Methodist Church, Calgary. It was begun in September 1892. The officers of this pioneer Methodist Society in Alberta were: President, Mrs. N. F. Binkley; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. W. H. Cushing; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Geo. Cook; Recording Secretary, Mrs. T. T. Bowes; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Mary Vallentyne; and Treasurer, Miss Clark. There were 26 members. Following are those listed as charter members: Mesdames Geo. Jamieson (later Mrs. Wm. Bradley), Geo. Dean (wife of the Minister), Dawson, Denovan, J. H. Whittleton, Whiting, A. McBride (still attending Central), Misses M. Trimble (later Mrs. F. W. Locke), Ferguson, Ada Battrick (later Mrs. W. T. Henry), Ida May (later Mrs. C. F. Comer), Bertha Parrish and Weirr.



*Mrs. N. F. Binkley*

Several Honorary members are listed also: Messrs H. Atkinson, Dr. N. F. Binkley, R. Kelly, Dawson, A. McKinley, A. E. McDairmid and A. McBride (Mayor of Calgary at that time.)

It would be interesting to tell something about all the members, but remarks about the first President will have to suffice. Mrs. Binkley came to Calgary from Brighton, Ont., in 1888. She married Dr. Binkley in 1891. It was during her ten years residence here that Central W.M.S. came into being and she was chosen as President. In 1898 she returned to Ontario where Dr. Binkley pursued his dental practice in Hamilton. While there Mrs. Binkley was active in the choir and women's organizations in Gore St. Methodist and later in Binkley United Church. Mrs. Binkley passed away in Hamilton, January 26th, 1946. Though not long a resident of Alberta she claims a rightful place in the annals of Methodism as the first Auxiliary President in Alberta.

The efforts of that pioneer organization were reported as follows: "Raising \$51.50, gathering and sending a box of clothing and bedding worth \$100 to a missionary and doing some sewing for another." The next year twelve new members were added. In 1921 there were 17 honorary members—all men. Perhaps that accounts for the large membership of 233. Mrs. J. A. Palmer was President at that time. Two years later Branch ruled that male memberships in our Society must not be solicited. In 1923 the minutes recorded that systematic giving was undertaken so that members would become methodical and liberal givers. The total raised that year was \$2,177.65. It is well that this auxiliary so nobly begun has stood the test of time and after varying fortunes still flourishes as Central United in Calgary.

In 1891 the Methodist W.M.S. chose as watchword or motto two passages of Scripture—"Not by might nor by power but by my spirit saith the Lord of Hosts, This is the victory that overcometh the world even our faith." At the same time a life membership pin or emblem was chosen. It was a silver star on a small globe emblematic of the Star of Bethlehem encircling the world.

Alberta became a separate Branch in 1909. Following is the minute telling of the Memorial asking for this separation from the North West Branch:—

I. "Whereas the Northwest Branch of the W.M.S. in its last annual meeting passed the following resolution,—Resolved that the North West Branch of the W.M.S. do memorialize the Board of Managers at its next annual meeting to set apart the Alberta Societies as a separate Branch of the Society for the following reasons etc.—and that the Alberta Societies be called the Alberta Branch of the W.M.S. and that Saskatchewan and Western Manitoba be called the Saskatchewan Branch of the W.M.S.

II. And whereas the Board of Managers at their annual meeting deemed it expedient to divide in accordance with the above resolution: Therefore be it resolved that this North West Branch assembled in Moose Jaw June 2, 3, and 4, 1909, do hereby reaffirm the decision of the Board of Managers to divide into two Branches according to the division laid down by the Conference.

III. That the same districts that are set apart for the Alberta Conference shall constitute the Alberta Branch and in like manner Saskatchewan too.

IV. That the North West Branch shall upon completion of all annual work stand adjourned, but it shall not be dissolved nor abrogate its authority until the organization of the two Branches shall be officially reported to the President of Branch and all the foregoing conditions having been complied with, she, the President of the Branch, shall announce the dissolution of the North West Branch and declare that the rights and privileges of the said Branch have passed into the hands of the two Branches.

V. That the two Branches upon convening for such organization shall appoint a chairman and a secretary protem, and shall then proceed to elect Branch officers."

When the North West Branch adjourned at Moose Jaw June 14th, 1909 to allow the two new Branches to convene for organization, the members of Alberta Branch assembled in the basement of the Church with Mrs. Dolmage, President of the North West Branch, in the chair. On motion of Mesdames A. A. Lytle of Lethbridge and W. W. Chown of Edmonton, Mrs. Loree of Nanton was appointed Secretary protem. The following officers were elected:—President, Mrs. W. W. Chown, Edmonton; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Joseph Cobbledick, Calgary; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. A. Barner, Red Deer; Recording Secretary, Mrs. A. A. Lytle, Lethbridge; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. W. J. Magrath, Edmonton; Treasurer, Mrs. W. T. Ash, Edmonton; Mission Band Secretary, Miss B. Harrison, Macleod; Supt. of Systematic Giving, Mrs. G. W. Kirby, Calgary; Organizers, Mrs. Robt. Pearson, Edmonton; Mrs. D. G. Shouldice, Calgary and Mrs. J. M. Harrison, Macleod.

After the organization of the two new Branches had been completed, both Branches reassembled in the auditorium and Mrs. Dolmage declared the North West Branch dissolved.

First Alberta Branch meeting was held in Red Deer, May 25, 26 27, 1910, in the Leonard Gaetz Memorial Church.

A membership of 620 was reported in 23 Auxiliaries. There were also 4 Mission Circles and 12 Mission Bands. A total of \$2,430.11 was raised.

At the time of Union the Inaugural Service took place Wednesday, May 26th, 1926, at 8 p.m. in Central United Church, Calgary. The first United Branch meeting convened the following morning at 9:30 in Knox United Church. A few of the high lights of that Branch meeting were:—The presiding officers were Mrs. Geo. Duncan and Mrs. A. M. Scott. The address of welcome was given by Mrs. J. J. Hall and Mrs. L. C. McKinney replied. Mrs. W. T. Ash spoke on "Expansion," Mrs. A. M. McColl read a paper on "India Missions of the United Church" and Mrs. Fred King one on Africa under the caption of "Some Missions of the United W.M.S." Other addresses were by Miss Mae Laycock on "What We Hope for the Ukrainian Girl in Alberta," Miss McKee on "Vegreville Home," Mrs. A. E. Archer on "Hospital Work in Alberta," Mrs. J. E. Duclos on "French Work in Alberta," and Mrs. A. M. Scott on "Our Opportunity." Mrs. R. W. McClung was the guest speaker at the evening meeting.

A record of organizations in Alberta at Union as compared to those in 1950 will give proof of advancement or failure:—

	At Union	In 1950
Baby Bands .....	9	75
Mission Bands .....	85	110
Affil. C.G.I.T. Groups .....	50	169
Mission Circles .....	13	11
Auxiliaries .....	118	107
Evening Auxiliaries .....	11	27
Affiliated Societies .....	21	107

Branch Presidents before Church Union were: Mesdames W. W. Chown, A. Barner, W. T. Ash, and A. M. Scott.

## CONGREGATIONAL

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Three consecrated Christian women met in the Manse of the Congregational Church in Ottawa on June 10th, 1886, with Mrs. John Wood, the wife of the minister and together they organized the first Congregational Woman's Missionary Society, which was later called "Canada Congregational Woman's Board of Missions." With Mrs. Wood were Mrs. Macallum, wife of the Congregational minister of Maxville and St. Elmo, Mrs. A. J. Stephens and Mrs. J. G. Lamb. Even before this Miss Emily Macallum, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Macallum, had gone to Turkey as a missionary under the Woman's Board of Missions of Boston, of the American Congregational Church.

This had created much interest in Canada and also the desire to have a Mission Board and Missionaries of their own. Mrs. Macallum was elected the first President, an office she held with great efficiency for 21 years, during which time she was privileged to have three of her children serving in Foreign Mission fields—Emily and Dr. Fred in Turkey, and Mary in Ceylon as the wife of a missionary—all under the American Board.

The Foreign Missionary Society of the Canada Congregational Church had earlier than this adopted Angola, West Central Africa, as its field of foreign service, in co-operation with the American Board who had founded this mission in 1880.

The first effort of the Woman's Board was to raise a Memorial Fund to build a school-chapel in memory of Mrs. Walter Currie, the wife of the first Canadian missionary to Africa, who had died shortly after reaching the field. In addition to that, they decided to send a woman missionary to Angola as soon as possible to work among the women and children. A young woman of charm and ability, Miss Minnehaha Clarke of Guelph was sent and gave three years of wonderfully successful service to these dark-skinned people who were devoted to her. Miss Clarke's death brought grief again to the Angola Mission, but her sacrifice inspired others to take her place during the years, and the work has gone on and prospered.

Everyone who heard Rev. Frederico Musseli of Angola when he spoke throughout Canada in 1950 with his missionary friend Rev. Theodore Tucker, will never forget his earnest message, his radiant personality, his friendly smile, and his reverent soul-searching prayers. Educated and trained through the Angola Mission, an ordained minister of the Church of Christ in Angola, he demonstrated more than anything else could have done the significance of the Christian Church in Angola.

With this deep intense interest in their own mission in Angola, the Woman's Board worked to organize auxiliaries and to promote the

missionary cause in every way. The first and only Auxiliary in Alberta was organized in Calgary in 1910 with the following officers:

Honorary President, Mrs. A. R. Schrag  
President, Miss L. Campbell  
Vice-President, Mrs. MacFarland  
Secy.-Treasurer, Mrs. L. P. Winslow

The first year's givings amounted to \$15.00 together with a bale of Home Mission supplies. Mrs. Geo. H. Hind was President for several years, and at the time of Union the officers were:



*Mrs. F. D. Sinclair*

President, Mrs. Findlay D. Sinclair  
Vice-President, Mrs. J. W. Black  
Secy.-Treas., Mrs. Gordon Kay  
Supt. Missionary Reading, Mrs. A. T. Boyse

In this year the financial returns were \$27.25 and in addition \$27.00 was given by the Russo-German Ladies' Aid, Calgary, also under the Congregational Church. Organized Ladies' Aids, which definitely studied and contributed to the missionary work of the Congregational church, were being carried on at Beiseker, Calgary (Ebenezer), Irwin, Medicine Hat (Salem) and Trochu (Zion), and became a part of the United Church of Canada at the time of union.

"Not for the eyes of men  
May this day's work be done,  
But unto Thee, O God.

That with the setting sun,  
My heart may know the matchless prize  
Of sure approval in Thine eyes."

## CHAPTER III

### HISTORY OF PRESBYTERIALS

#### CALGARY PRESBYTERIAL

In 1908 a Presbyterian of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church was formed in Calgary with nine Auxiliaries and Mrs. A. McWilliams became President.

In 1911 The Women's Home Missionary Society organized a Presbyterian in Calgary with eleven Auxiliaries. The bounds of the Presbyterian stretched from Banff to Medicine Hat. Mrs. D. Carter was chosen President.

In 1914 these two Presbyteries united and became the Calgary Presbyterian of the Presbyterian W.M.S. The initial annual meeting was held in Knox Church, Calgary, in 1915. At that time Mrs. J. A. Clark was elected President, others to follow her before Church Union were:—Mesdames J. L. Rowe, J. J. Hall and A. Rannie.

On Nov. 24th, 1924 the Presbyterian executive held a special meeting to consider Church Union. It was decided to carry on the work as harmoniously and with as little interruption as possible. The allocation of \$3,800 was exceeded. Mrs. A. Rannie was chosen to represent the Society at the Inaugural Service.

For many years after the constituting of the Methodist Branch in Alberta in 1909, no districts were designated, instead all Auxiliaries and officers were listed alphabetically in the Annual Report.

Branch was divided into Districts in 1916, each District had an Organizer. Calgary Organizers were:—Mesdames W. A. Stickle, A. M. Scott, F. W. Locke, H. D. Marr and A. M. Scott. In 1918 Organizers became known as District Superintendents. Mrs. A. M. Scott was Superintendent for Calgary, Youngstown and High River. After Church Union Districts became known as Presbyteries.

At the time of Church Union, 1925, many Inaugural services were held over Canada. Perhaps the Calgary meeting was typical of the others.

The Inaugural Service of the W.M.S. of Calgary Presbyterian of Alberta Branch of The United Church of Canada, was held in Central United Church, Tuesday, April 20th, 1926. Mrs. A. A. Lytle, gave the following record of this meeting:—

"Mrs. H. W. Avison presided at the organ and gave a brief recital during the period of assembling.

"Promptly at 8 o'clock the organ pealed forth the accompaniment of the stately old hymn—The Church's One Foundation is Jesus Christ Our Lord, and the members of the uniting societies filed into the auditorium. The former Presbyterian led by their Superintendent,

Mrs. A. Rannie and the former Methodist led by Mrs. W. W. Cumming, Superintendent of the Methodist section. All joined in the hymn and the long lines continued to file in until the great auditorium was filled. Mrs. A. Rannie and Mrs. Cumming took their places on the platform and with them was Mrs. F. D. Sinclair, representing the former Congregational Church, Mrs. A. M. Scott, convener of the Provincial Interim Committee, Rev. A. D. Richard, Chairman of the Calgary Presbytery, and Rev. Capt. Muncaster who was to bring the inspirational message.

The Inaugural Service prepared by the Dominion Board was followed throughout. Capt. Muncaster's message brought clearly before us the task of the W.M.S. of the United Church—we must act as a force for transmitting the Gospel to those in our own and other lands, who have not heard it.

The Communion Service was conducted by Rev. A. D. Richard assisted by Rev. T. Powell, Rev. W. A. Lewis, Capt. Muncaster and Rev. G. Driver. A deeply spiritual tone was imparted by the beautiful inaugural service and the message of the evening, and we left the Church with a new sense of fellowship, a broader outlook and stronger to face the tasks awaiting our Society."

The following day Presbyterial held its first meeting and elected Mrs. J. R. Brown as first President. Following Mrs. Brown, Calgary Presbyterial Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. A. Lytle, W. Greig, W. M. Grant, M. L. Bowen, J. A. Johnston, W. Kemp, E. Corbett, C. F. Rannie, T. B. Lowe and W. B. Fraser.

Following is an Alphabetical review of the present Auxiliaries of the Calgary Presbyterial:—

ACME—As early as 1915 Acme had a Ladies' Guild with Mrs. E. M. Jones as President, affiliated with the Presbyterian W.M.S. It continued till 1925 with Mrs. C. N. Nelson and Mrs. W. A. Brown as Presidents.

In 1926 the "Catherine Smith" Auxiliary of eighteen members was organized with Mrs. C. N. Nelson as President. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames C. H. Nelson, J. D. Patterson, J. W. McCulloch, E. J. Snider, J. W. McCulloch and J. W. Reddikopp. In 1950 the membership was eleven and the amount given was \$165.

BANFF—Banff W.M.S. was begun in 1916 with Mrs. A. D. Archibald as the President. It was a Union Auxiliary. Over the years the Presidents have been—Mesdames A. D. Archibald, R. B. Martin, E. Beatty, B. S. Fox, O. E. Richard and E. Thompson. At the time of Church Union the President was Mrs. T. H. Lonsdale who served in that office for more than fifteen years. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames T. H. Lonsdale, G. R. Holeton, E. Dignall and M. Raby. In 1950 there were twenty-one members and \$230 was contributed.

The observance of The World Day of Prayer in this Auxiliary is conducted in unique manner—from nine o'clock in the morning to

early evening, members go to the Church for a period of private devotion.

**CALGARY-CENTRAL**—Central was the first Methodist Auxiliary formed in Alberta. It began in Sept. 1892 with 26 members. Until 1925 the Presidents were:—Mesdames N. F. Binkley, A. E. Waldon, T. T. Bowes, Miss E. J. Smith, Mesdames R. S. Kelly, F. Langford, P. Gronland, J. A. Palmer, Wright, O. Might, W. H. Gordon, J. Cobbledick, O. Might, W. A. Stickle, J. W. Campbell, J. L. Speer, A. G. Austin, G. C. Robinson and W. V. Moore. The membership at Union was 226 and \$1,552.62 was contributed.

Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. G. Austin, G. C. Robinson, T. Powell, C. J. Ford, F. E. Graham, E. Corbett, W. B. Fraser, H. E. Crowle, E. Geehan and H. S. Jenkins. In 1950 there were 171 members and the givings were \$2230.

From the membership of Central three Missionaries have gone to serve the Church—in 1951 Miss J. Vickery was sent by the W.M.S. to Trinidad and in the same year Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Graham went under the Overseas Mission Board to Japan. (Mrs. Graham was the former Miss E. Geehan).

**CENTRAL EVENING AUXILIARY**—This Auxiliary was organized in 1933. The Presidents have been:—Mrs. W. Kemp, Misses M. Osborne, A. Walker, Mrs. J. M. Gardiner, Miss V. Staples, Mrs. G. Elder, Miss E. McLean, Mrs. G. P. Powles, Mrs. S. H. Corben and Miss A. MacDiarmid. In 1950 there were 70 members who donated \$950 to Missions. Central Evening Auxiliary won distinction when one of its members became Branch President—Mrs. W. Kemp was Branch President 1944-47.

**"DENCY McALLA" EVENING AUXILIARY**—A second Evening Auxiliary was organized by Mrs. Gordon Lapp in Central in 1948. The Presidents have been:—Mrs. L. Jeffrey and Mrs. D. Little. In 1950 there were 21 members who donated \$125 to Missions.

**CRESCENT HEIGHTS**—As a result of the missionary enthusiasm of Mrs. F. W. Locke an Auxiliary was formed in Crescent Heights in 1913 with Mrs. A. Barner as President. Other Presidents before 1925 were:—Mesdames G. A. Jones, B. Oxley, B. B. Hayes and G. E. Butterwick. At Union there were 42 members who gave \$300.42. Since Church Union the Presidents have been Mesdames:—G. E. Butterwick, G. L. Chesney, E. Corbett, B. B. Hayes, F. Harback, W. Creighton, M. Reed, H. Matthews, B. A. Choppen and F. W. Dwelle. In 1950 there were 36 members and their givings totalled \$380.

**CRESCENT HEIGHTS EVENING AUXILIARY**—An Evening Auxiliary was begun in 1950 with Mrs. J. Reinders as President.

**HILLHURST**—Two Churches came together at Union to form Hillhurst United. They were Hillhurst Presbyterian and St. Paul's Methodist.

St. Paul's began with a Sunday School in the Spring of 1907, the Church congregation followed and the W.M.S. was begun in



1913 with Mrs. S. G. Gregg as the first President. Before Union the Presidents were:— Mesdames S. G. Gregg, C. E. Leppard, W. C. Liphardt and S. G. Gregg.

In the Autumn of 1907 a Presbyterian Mission was begun in Riley's Hall and by the end of 1908 a Church was built and opened. In 1912 the W.M.S. was formed. As a Presbyterian Auxiliary its Presidents were:—Mesdames M. D. Andrews, R. B. Francis, Miss M. B. Tier, Mesdames E. Duncan, R. Magowan and J. H. Harback. The last report before Union gave the membership as 31 and the givings \$261.36.

At the time of Union Hillhurst was retained as the Church home and St. Paul's Manse as the Minister's residence. The members of St. Paul's gathered at the old Church and marched in a body to the new Hillhurst United Church.

Since Union the Presidents of the W.M.S. have been:—Mesdames R. B. Francis, S. H. Adams, W. F. Rook, L. Wood, M. Hatfield, E. S. Frost, E. J. McConnell, C. F. Rannie, W. C. Black, W. F. Rook, and R. F. Berry. In 1950 there were 46 members who contributed \$806.

**HILLHURST EVENING AUXILIARY**—Originally known as a Young Women's Auxiliary this organization began in 1923. The Presidents have been:—Misses H. Seully, M. Ramsay, V. Gibson, M. McClement, C. Frizzell, C. Cleland, W. Donaldson, D. Jones, J. Hunt, and Mrs. A. B. Taylor. In 1950 there were 24 members who raised \$209.63 for Missions.

**KNOX**—A W.F.M.S. was organized in Knox in 1897 after hearing Dr. M. McKellar tell of her work among women in India. Mrs. Hugh Neilson was chosen President followed later by Mesdames W. Carson, J. McLaren, J. C. McNeil, M. G. Vans, J. C. McNeil, J. L. Rowe, Harvey, J. A. Clark, C. S. Maharg, J. A. Clark, J. L. Rowe, Miss M. K. Wilson and Mrs. W. L. Carlyle.

In Feb. 1904 a W.H.M.S. was begun with Mrs. D. Clark as President. Others to follow her were:—Mrs. J. C. Herdman, Miss A. G. Foote, Mesdames J. A. Clark, C. S. Maharg and J. A. Clark. The first work undertaken was to gather \$250. for The Peace River Mission. The members canvassed the congregation and received the amount needed. "The Home Mission Work of this Western Country" was the first topic for study. Sunday School papers and Christian literature were collected and sent to Mission fields. Shepard and Airdrie were Home Mission fields at that time. Requests for clothing for needy families were frequently received and answered. In 1909 th Auxiliary did some sewing for the Calgary General Hospital. In 1924 there were 45 members who raised \$525 for Missions.

Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. Farquharson, J. D. Wilson, E. T. Curliss, A. McTeer, T. Humphries, J. Smith, W. G. Wilson, G. Skeene, W. Greig, N. M. Jackson, D. Wright, N. Sinclair and Miss L. Breckon. In 1950 there were 75 members giving \$1800.

**KNOX EVENING AUXILIARY**—Knox Evening Auxiliary began in 1931. The Presidents have been:—Misses M. McKenzie, B. J.

Irvine, J. Smith, M. Hoskin, M. Bruce, Mrs. E. D. Jackson and Miss J. Smith. In 1950 there were 29 members giving \$529.56.

**NORTH HILL**—A W.M.S. of the Presbyterian Church was organized in 1918 by Miss Eliza McGregor, Field Secretary from Toronto. Before Union the Presidents were:—Mesdames J. R. Brown, J. R. Stewart, M. Fowlie, and W. D. Waldron. In 1924 there were 27 members and the amount raised was \$136.50. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames H. D. Waldron, W. B. Nelson, I. Shafer, J. R. Brown, H. D. Waldron, N. McKechnie, M. E. Silman, B. A. Moon, N. McKechnie, A. Turner, J. Kelly, R. C. Robertson and B. A. Moon. In 1950 there were 28 members who gave \$347.14.

**PLEASANT HEIGHTS**—A Presbyterian W.M.S. of 18 members was started in 1922 with Mrs. F. J. Hartley as leader. The original Church services in Pleasant Heights district were held in the home of Mrs. J. Forrest. Soon a Church building was erected and later a W.M.S. organized. Since Union the Presidents have been Mesdames F. J. Hartley, F. B. Corey, C. S. Pinder, G. H. Peacock, H. S. McDonald and R. R. McConnell. An outstanding record is credited to Mrs. McConnell who for more than fifteen years has served this organization as President. In 1950 there were 11 members who gave \$78.50.

**SCARBORO**—Scarboro W.M.S. was formed by the union of Bankview Presbyterian and Bankview Methodist organizations. The Presbyterian W.M.S. functioned as an Associate Society before it became an Auxiliary in 1918. Early Presidents were:—Mesdames B. Polly, A. Rannie, J. Kennedy and W. G. Morrison. Bankview Methodist Auxiliary was begun in 1911. Before Union the Presidents were:—Mesdames A. M. Butler, F. E. Werry, F. Langford, T. Jarvis, A. C. Pettit and O. Collins. In 1920 this group became known as Scarboro Ave. W.M.S. with Mrs. E. J. Tees as President. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. D. Richard, M. R. Wallace, G. H. Gilliland, M. L. Bowen, M. R. Wallace, D. McEwan, J. Fowler, W. F. Rogers, E. M. Cadigan, H. Porter, L. M. Richardson, A. Anderson and A. Robison. In 1950 there were 49 members who gave \$727 to missions.

**SCARBORO EVENING AUXILIARY**—This Auxiliary was begun at Scarboro in 1942. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames G. E. Bennett, L. Catley, E. Edwards, R. Carter, J. C. Ewing, A. Mowat, I. Lorsback and J. V. G. Ward. In 1950 there were 24 members who contributed \$250.

**SOUTH CALGARY**—The W.M.S. dates from 1921. It was one of thirteen Auxiliaries added to the roll of the Presbyterian work because of an effective visit of the Field Secretary Miss E. McGregor of Toronto. South Calgary begun with 17 members and Mrs. D. Macallister as the first President. Mrs. T. J. Lund was the leader with 21 members as it concluded its service as a Presbyterian organization and entered Union. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. M. McKenzie, W. Jacobs, J. T. McKinley, H. Birchall, D. Macalister, J. McKinley, W. G. Cole, E. Jacobs, S. Taylor, J. H. Beatty, B. J. Whit-

bread, W. Warsnop and S. Taylor. In 1950 there were 15 members who gave \$242.92.

**ST. PAUL'S**—In "The Pioneer" April 1910 Mrs. J. J. Hall is reported as the President of the newly organized St. Paul's Auxiliary. Later Presidents were Mesdames W. Gallagher, F. W. Allott, E. Curliss; J. D. Boyce and A. M. McColl. The last record as a Presbyterian organization lists 41 members who raised \$292.10. Since entering Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. M. McColl, J. F. Dole, R. Magowan, W. W. Cumming, T. B. Lowe, J. Marles, B. A. Choppen, B. Shaver, B. Elford, J. Marles and E. Rutz. In 1950 there were 12 members and the contribution was \$240.

St. Paul's includes the organization of Victoria. Victoria was an Auxiliary of the Methodist W.M.S. It began in 1909 with Mrs. W. Pound as President of the 32 members. Other Presidents before Union were:—Mesdames C. F. Rumrill, W. W. Cumming, F. A. Lacey and L. Faudry. Following Union Mrs. Lydia Faudry continued as President until the organization joined with St. Paul's Auxiliary in 1928.

**TRINITY**—In the Methodist report for 1909, Trinity W.M.S. is reported new and "ready for work." Mrs. Speer was the first President of the ten members. Until 1925 the Presidents were:—Mesdames Speer, E. Akhurst, G. Cottle and S. S. Ellis. Trinity became known as Cushing Memorial from 1924-29. In 1924 there were 40 members who raised \$276.42. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames S. S. Ellis, W. Salt, H. L. Smith, W. T. Young, W. H. Godfrey, S. S. Ellis and W. A. Morgan. In 1950 there were 22 members who contributed \$122.

**WESLEY**—In the record of the Methodist N.W. Conference Branch of 1908-09 Wesley is reported as a new Auxiliary with 15 members. Mrs. T. S. Edwards was the first President. Others to follow her were:—Mesdames A. M. Scott, J. H. Hanna and A. G. Allen. In 1924 there were 187 members who gave \$1206.43. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. Young, G. Allen, J. A. Johnston, P. A. Fetterley, J. E. White, W. R. Lough, J. A. Johnston, E. C. Steeves, A. R. Marshall, J. T. Atkinson and J. E. Keir. In 1950 there were 90 members who contributed \$1648.25.

Wesley is justly proud of Mrs. A. M. Scott, who acted as President of the Auxiliary from 1909-21 and then became Branch President for eight years. The inspiration of her life and missionary zeal is widespread in Alberta. Wesley is proud too, of Miss Pearl Willows, B.A., who was commissioned as a Deaconess and served the W.M.S. from 1939-41, and Miss I. Clare, B.H.Sc., who went in 1946 as a Missionary to China.

**WEST CALGARY**—A Mission Study Group led by Mrs. R. Macdonald developed into an Auxiliary in 1949, with 12 members. Since organization as an Auxiliary Mrs. K. Bowerman and Mrs. A. J. Thomson have served as Presidents.

**SPRINGBANK**—A group of 12 ladies of the Presbyterian Church banded together into an Auxiliary in August 1912, with Mrs. W. Young as President. Seven years later they joined with the Methodist group of ten members, which had begun in 1916 with Mrs. C. R. Corcoran as President. Mrs. F. P. Smith was chosen President of the Union W.M.S. Later Presidents were Mesdames V. M. Gilbert, H. M. Horricks, W. R. Johnston, G. M. Henning, W. Little, H. Wallace and A. C. Anderson. In 1950 there were ten members who raised \$125.

From the district of this small Auxiliary a young man dedicated his life to service—Mr. Chas. Young, son of an early President, served as a Missionary in India for a number of years.

**STRATHMORE**—The Minister's Wife, Mrs. V. M. Gilbert, was responsible for the organization of the W.M.S. at Strathmore in May 1938. Mrs. J. A. Johnston, Presbyterian President, addressed the new organization of 11 members. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames V. M. Gilbert, M. McLeod, D. McMurray, A. M. Folk and S. Coldwell. In 1950 there were 22 members who donated \$100 to Missions.

At Union Calgary Presbyterian included 21 Auxiliaries, 3 Young Women's Auxiliaries, 5 Mission Circles, 16 Mission Bands, 3 Associate Societies and 5 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups. In 1950 there are 16 Auxiliaries, 14 Affiliated Societies, 6 Evening Auxiliaries, 4 Mission Circles, 18 Mission Bands and Explorer Groups. ~~7 Baby Bands and 46 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.~~

## CAMROSE PRESBYTERIAL

Before 1925 Camrose organizations were reported in Lacombe Presbyterian, but after Union Camrose Presbyterian was formed. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames L. E. Armstrong, M. S. Kerr, M. M. MacLean, J. Shennan, R. H. Elliott, W. Scott, M. S. Kerr, H. Vogt, W. H. McLeod and Miss H. Hunt.

Following is a short history of the present Auxiliaries:—

**CAMROSE**—Camrose was organized as a Presbyterian Society in 1916. Before Union the Presidents were:—Mrs. F. R. G. Dredge, Miss McCorkindale, Mesdames F. R. G. Dredge, J. K. Burgess, Tuck, J. K. Burgess and H. N. Johnstone. In 1924 there were 17 members who contributed \$154.40. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. P. Capsey, R. J. Henry, R. H. Elliott, W. S. Scott, W. H. McLeod, N. Whitmore, R. H. Elliott, W. H. McLeod, J. P. Capsey and S. M. Bolton. In 1950 there were 31 members who gave \$570.17.

Camrose Auxiliary distinguished itself by supplying a Missionary for Community Work—Miss Florence Capsey was appointed a Missionary of the W.M.S. in 1927 and for three years served as a Community worker at Newcastle.

**DAYS LAND**—Rev. and Mrs. G. G. Pybus created the missionary interest which led to the organization of a W.M.S. at Daysland in 1928 with ten Members. Mrs. Pybus acted as the first President,

others following her were:—Mesdames A. J. Moore, R. G. Bowlby, H. O. Brown, C. E. Rogers, W. J. Moore, H. O. Brown and R. G. Bowlby. In 1950 there were 14 members and the givings were \$140.46.

**FORESTBURGH**—Forestburgh is a new Auxiliary organized in 1949 with Mrs. C. M. Shillinglaw as President of the 17 members who gave \$100.35.

**KILLAM**—Killam Auxiliary was begun in 1913 with Mrs. A. E. Fee as President, other succeeding Presidents have been Mesdames R. N. Weir, A. T. Barr, S. F. Fee and H. E. Fee. In 1924 there were 13 members who gave \$66.41. Since union the Presidents have been Mesdames S. F. Fee, A. E. Fee, J. Shennan, Miss H. Hunt, Mesdames W. Fairweather, J. Gair, J. Shennan, H. Wilson, E. White, R. H. Shoupe and C. E. L. Baker. In 1950 there were 13 members and the givings were \$124.45.

**ROSALIND**—A new Auxiliary began at Rosalind in 1946 with Mrs. S. Could as the President. In 1950 there were five members who donated \$94.80.

**SEDGEWICK**—In 1919 an Auxiliary of nine members was organized in Sedgewick. Mrs. W. H. Scott was President from then until Union. At that time there were 9 members who gave \$78.52. Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames H. W. Scott, P. Dawson, A. I. Miller, C. C. Scheltens, M. M. MacLean, G. R. McKee, H. McLennan, M. M. MacLean, J. S. Bergh and J. E. Gosnell. In 1950 there were 15 members whose givings totalled \$136.55.

In 1925 Camrose Presbyterial comprised 5 Auxiliaries, 2 Mission Bands and 3 Associate Societies. In 1950 there were 6 Auxiliaries, 11 Affiliated Societies, 2 Mission Bands, 5 Baby Bands and 1 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Group.

## DRUMHELLER PRESBYTERIAL

Originally Drumheller organizations were connected with Calgary Presbyterial, then from 1928-32 they were recorded in the Hanna Presbyterial. In 1932 Drumheller became a separate Presbyterial with Mrs. H. D. Leitch the first President. Others following her were:—Mesdames C. F. Rannie, J. A. McLachlan, W. F. Pratt, O. G. Sibbald, K. Marcus, A. O. McNeil and M. Sibbald. Presidents of Hanna Presbyterial were Mrs. E. M. Bigelow and H. D. Leitch.

As Hanna Presbyterial a request was sent to Board and granted for the opening of a Community Mission at Newcastle.

Following is a short history of the present Auxiliaries:—

**DELIA**—Delia began as a Presbyterian Society in 1920. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames E. M. Bigelow, C. A. Steele, W. J. Barss, W. H. McDonald, G. E. Hewson, A. Wilcox, P. Thompson and W. D. Fitzsimmons. In 1950 the members numbered 15 and contributed \$135.

**DRUMHELLER**—The Auxiliary at Drumheller began in 1922 with 23 members. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. Florence, W. K. Thompson, E. A. Toshach, C. Macaulay, H. D. Leitch, E. A. Toshach, J. A. McLachlan, P. Forbes, G. M. Gibson, W. H. Moss, J. Utley, F. C. Moyer and N. F. Bell. In 1950 there were 29 members who donated \$240 to Missions.

**DRUMHELLER EVENING AUXILIARY** — This Evening Auxiliary was organized in 1946. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames L. Matthews, I. Fitzpatrick, R. Russell and J. Moffatt. In 1950 there were 12 members who contributed \$55.27 to Missions.

**RUTH SIMPSON EVENING AUXILIARY**—A new Evening Auxiliary was begun in 1947 and named "Ruth Simpson" in honor of a well beloved Deaconess. The Presidents have been:—Mrs. O. Sibbald and Mrs. R. Vockeroth. In 1950 there were 21 members who raised \$95.05.

**HANNA**—Hanna W.M.S. was organized in 1920 with 12 members. Mrs. W. C. Sterling became the first President and remained until Union. Following 1925 the Presidents were:—Mesdames A. W. Coone, R. Rose, F. J. Hartley, W. Creighton, G. Hipperson, A. Maynes, F. J. Hartley, W. C. Stirling, D. M. Graham and W. F. Pratt. In 1950 there were 25 members and the givings were \$264.

**MIDLANDVALE**—Midlandvale, an Auxiliary of nine members was begun in 1948, with Mrs. W. M. Pearson as President. Following her Miss C. McKeen has been President. In 1950 there were 10 members who gave \$45.

**NACMINE**—An Auxiliary was organized at Nacmine in 1942 with nine members. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames P. J. Boyd, J. R. Henderson and C. Harvey. In 1950 the membership remained the same but the giving increased to \$60.

**NEWCASTLE**—The W.M.S. at Newcastle began in 1941 with 12 members and Mrs. C. H. Drury as President. Since then the Presidents have been Mesdames R. Patton, H. Cowler, A. Horner and L. M. Dahl. In 1950 there were 22 members who contributed \$100.

**SUNBEAM**—A new Auxiliary was started at Sunbeam in 1944 with Mrs. E. Deeprose as President of the eleven members. Others to act as President have been:—Misses V. Deeprose and B. Deeprose and Mrs. C. E. Chambers. In 1950 the contribution amounted to \$105.89.

When the Presbyterial originated there were 5 Auxiliaries, 4 Associate Societies, 1 Mission Band, 1 Baby Band and 4 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups. In 1950 there were 7 Auxiliaries, 1 Affiliated Society, 1 Evening Auxiliary, 9 Mission Bands and Affiliated Explorers, 3 Baby Bands and 8 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.

## EDMONTON PRESBYTERIAL

A. W.H.M.S. Presbyterian was organized in Edmonton in 1906. Until 1914 the Presbyterian Presidents were:—Mesdames D. G. McQueen, A. F. Ewing and J. E. Duclos.

In 1908 the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society organized a Presbyterian with Mrs. G. Bremner as President. She was followed by Mesdames R. J. Manson, J. M. Hotson and G. W. Duncan.

These two Presbyterian Societies united in 1914 with Mrs. G. Bremner as President. Other Presidents before Church Union in 1925 were:— Mesdames D. N. MacLeod and J. E. Duclos.

For the Methodist W.M.S. the District Organizers were Mrs. R. B. Walt and Mrs. M. L. Wright.

Since Union the Presbyterian Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. D. Ramsay, A. D. Miller, J. A. Caldwell, S. M. Bolton, A. P. Wheeler, W. H. Facey, C. E. Miller, R. Kay, F. Miller and J. Scoffield.

The following is a short history of the present Auxiliaries:—

CLOVER BAR—Clover Bar was begun as a Methodist Society in 1910. Before Union the Presidents were:—Mesdames W. J. Ottewell, M. VanCamp, H. J. Smith and M. VanCamp. In 1924 there were 20 members who donated \$90. Since 1925 the Presidents have been:— Mesdames W. J. Ottewell, J. P. Berry, W. J. Ottewell, F. T. Jackson, W. J. Ottewell, C. McElroy, H. Byers and A. Daly. In 1950 there were 18 members who contributed \$207.10.

## EDMONTON

BUCHANAN—Buchanan Evening Auxiliary was begun in 1947. The Presidents have been Mrs. T. Gunn and Mrs. H. Brooks. In 1950 there were 28 members who gave \$30.

EDMONTON CENTRAL—Central embodies in it the organizations of Westminster Presbyterian and Grace Methodist. W.M.S. work in Westminster, originally known as Queen's Avenue, was inspired by Miss M. Robinson, a Field Secretary and Mrs. D. G. McQueen. The Society dates from 1906 with Mrs. S. W. Williamson as the first President. She was succeeded by Mesdames T. B. Fuhner, S. W. Turnbull, J. Beaton, A. Fullerton, C. Myers, A. Fullerton, J. D. Currie, A. Fullerton and C. E. Wilson.

Grace Methodist W.M.S. began in 1907 with Mrs. J. A. Downs as the first leader. Other Presidents were Mesdames W. Davidson, T. Powell, D. Ingram, W. J. S. Stanton, J. Day and D. Reed. In 1924 there were 68 members who gave \$597.05.

After the organization became known as Central, in 1927, the Presidents were:—Mesdames J. W. Philpott, K. MacKenzie, J. Howey, W. H. Facey, W. B. Yule, G. B. Laverty, J. McArthur, I. P. Dickie, P.

Cruikshank, J. T. McCreath and W. B. Yule. In 1950 there were 45 members who gave \$1275.

**CENTRAL EVENING AUXILIARY**—Central Evening Auxiliary began at Union. The Presidents have been:—Miss J. Anderson, Mesdames A. D. Youmans, E. A. Stonehouse, L. D. Cherry, Miss L. F. Lord, Mesdames D. J. Ritchie, L. Terrill, and R. K. Colter. In 1950 there were 19 members who contributed \$310.

**DR. GORDON AGNEW EVENING AUXILIARY**—This was newly organized in 1948. The Presidents have been:—Mrs. A. Hunter and Mrs. V. Wilson. In 1950 there were 20 members who contributed \$130.

**EASTWOOD**—Eastwood was begun as a Methodist organization in 1913. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. E. Thompson, J. Merrick, W. Ryall, G. Driver, A. Whitley and W. E. Thompson. In 1924 there were 25 members who gave \$118.46.

At the time of Church Union Grierson became part of Eastwood. Grierson was organized as a Presbyterian Society in 1916. The Presidents were:—Mesdames T. Cochrane, W. Florence, W. Connolly, A. B. Campbell, W. Florence, R. Chambers and A. P. Wilson. In 1924 there were 11 members who gave \$39.70.

Since Union in 1925, the Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. E. Thompson, W. Connolly, T. Cochrane, W. E. Thompson, A. Miller, H. C. Freeman, W. Wray, H. C. Freeman and T. J. Stainton. In 1950 there were 18 members who contributed \$139.11. Honorable mention should be given to Mrs. J. Martin for her faithful service over a period of twenty-seven years and to Mrs. H. C. Freeman for nineteen years as an officer of Eastwood Auxiliary. From this Auxiliary Miss Grace King was commissioned in 1951 as a Missionary of the W.M.S.

**ERSKINE**—Erskine was a Presbyterian organization begun in 1911. Mrs. J. E. Duclos was the first President. Others to follow her were Mesdames A. S. Magee, H. S. Dickson and W. Carter. (Erskine did not function from 1918 - 27) since 1927 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames D. F. Kellner, A. Cruikshank, T. R. Irwin, H. McArthur, J. Caldwell, D. Ramsay, A. S. Elliott and H. MacEachran. In 1950 there were 13 members giving \$170.

**ERSKINE EVENING AUXILIARY**—An Evening Auxiliary was begun at Erskine in 1949 with Mrs. J. Kenny as President.

**HIGHLANDS**—At the home of Mrs. W. J. Magrath in November 1912, a Methodist W.M.S. was formed. Before Union the Presidents were:—Mesdames A. W. Coone, W. J. Magrath, E. Wells, H. E. Ward, W. T. Ash, W. A. Smith and W. J. Magrath. In 1924 there were 90 members who contributed \$616.55. Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. J. Magrath, L. J. Kennedy, J. L. Bond, E. A. Loring, R. Kay, S. M. Bolton, E. H. Ward, E. L. Burrell and B. H. Hadlow. In 1950 there were 33 members who raised \$559.50.



Affection and gratitude mingle as memory recalls the splendid women who through the years have contributed to the missionary effort of the Highland Auxiliary.

**JASPER PLACE**—Missionary work was organized at Jasper Place in 1946 and operated as a Federation. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames H. C. Martin and S. K. Ozment. In 1950 there were 48 members who donated \$75 to Missions.

**JASPER PLACE EVENING AUXILIARY**—An Evening Auxiliary was begun at Jasper Place in 1946. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames Shier, R. Sanders and J. Biccum. In 1950 there were 25 members who gave \$25.41.

**KNOX**—Work at Knox was originally known as Strathcona Auxiliary. The W.F.M.S. was started in 1903 because of an address given by Miss M. Robinson, Field Secretary. The Presidents have been:—Mrs. A. D. Mills, Miss Peel, Mesdames D. Fleming, D. Campbell, H. McKenzie, Scott and J. Carmichael.

A Home Missionary Society called "Fleming Auxiliary" was organized in 1906. The Presidents were:—Mesdames Lewis, R. Martin, S. W. Dyde and M. Martin. In 1912 Strathcona became known as Knox and the two missionary organizations united. Until 1925 the Presidents were:—Mesdames G. W. Duncan, Tookey, G. W. Duncan, L. T. Barclay, R. J. Russell, Tookey and T. Buckham. In 1924 there were 55 members giving \$624.06. Since Church Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames S. M. Bolton, A. P. Wheeler, A. H. Scott, K. W. Reikie, F. Smith, J. Douglas, K. W. Reikie, A. T. Miller, J. Douglas, G. E. Campbell and J. E. Carmichael. In 1950 there were 47 members and their contribution was \$1,339.

**KNOX EVENING AUXILIARY**—Knox Evening Auxiliary was organized in 1931. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames R. W. Bradley, J. Buchanan, A. J. H. Powell, A. N. Cruickshanks, Misses D. Stacey, J. M. Moses, Mesdames J. Russell, O. Olsen and T. Blacklock. In 1950 there were 29 members who gave \$308.69.

**McDOUGALL**—The first Methodist W.M.S. in Edmonton was begun in the historic McDougall Church in 1898 with the Minister's Wife, Mrs. T. Ferrier, as President of the eighteen members. Tithing was chosen as the means of securing money for Missions. Members of the Auxiliary sensed the need of Ruthenian girls to learn English in order to secure employment, and classes were begun which proved to be the forerunner of the work later embodied in The Ruthenian Home.

Presidents of McDougall Auxiliary following Mrs. Ferrier were:—Mesdames A. H. Goodwin, R. B. Walt, J. H. Ridell, W. W. Chown, J. L. Studholme, T. J. Norman, J. L. Studholme and C. E. Race. In 1924 there were 258 members who gave \$1,332.95. Since Union the Presidents have been:— Mesdames W. T. Ash, A. S. Tuttle, F. S. McCall, L. D. Parney, A. S. Tuttle, R. Pearson, L. D. Parney, S. B. Simmonds and A. D. Richard. In 1950 there were 61 members raising

\$1,095.16. From McDougall in 1947 Miss A. Skenfield was commissioned a Missionary of the W.M.S.

**MCDUGALL EVENING AUXILIARY**—McDougall Evening Auxiliary was organized in 1926. The Presidents were:—Misses W. Lingard, M. Wright, A. Uglow, B. Bruce, A. Stutchbury, W. Lingard, Mesdames C. Brisbin, H. E. Carmichael, Misses E. Daly, B. Battrick, Mrs. C. N. Brisbane, Miss E. Daly and Mrs. M. Dunphy. In 1950 there were 28 members who gave \$325.

**MARGARET ROSS EVENING AUXILIARY**—This Evening Auxiliary was begun in 1947. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames H. E. Reid, G. McFadden, A. McDonald and H. Paull. In 1950 there were 29 members who donated \$213.35 to Missions.

**METROPOLITAN**—In 1900 Strathcona Methodist W.M.S. was organized by Miss E. Smith and retained that name till 1911 when it became Metropolitan. While known as Strathcona the Presidents were:—Miss E. A. Smith, Mesdames J. M. Smith, W. Fowler, W. E. Rankin and J. R. Lavell. Then as Metropolitan the Presidents were:—Mesdames R. Leitch, W. Fowler, T. W. Quayle, R. R. Hodson, A. G. McKittrick, J. Pattullo and A. D. Miller. In 1924 there were 100 members and their giving totalled \$694.24. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. D. Miller, H. G. Rice, A. E. Ottewell, W. W. McBain, A. D. Miller, W. M. Sellar, J. K. Smith, W. W. McBain, W. Robertson and A. G. Andrews. In 1950 there were 77 members who contributed \$1,202.26. It is remembered with pride that two full time Missionaries have come from the ranks of Metropolitan Church. They are Miss D. McBain, B.A., and Miss F. Taylor, R.N.

**METROPOLITAN EVENING AUXILIARY** — Metropolitan Evening Auxiliary was organized in 1926 with Miss G. Bird the first President. Others to follow her were:—Misses P. McBain, J. Dunn, Mesdames W. H. Langman, E. H. Moss, G. B. Taylor, G. F. Bruce and J. E. Oberholtzer. In 1950 there were 34 members who gave \$420.71.

**NORWOOD**—In Dec. 1909 Mrs. W. W. Chown addressed a group of women on the Methodist W.M.S. work. The result of this meeting was the organization of Norwood Auxiliary. One of the first concerns of the W.M.S. was to discover ways and means to assist Ruthenian girls to learn the English language and secure employment. An early member of Norwood was Miss E. R. Robinson, who for a time was a teacher at Wahstao.

From the time of organization to Union the Presidents of Norwood Auxiliary were:—Mesdames W. J. Martin, R. W. Hedley, J. D. Guild, W. J. Martin, E. M. Watson and R. Colville. In 1924 the membership was 46 and the givings totalled \$356. Since 1925 the Presidents have been Mesdames R. Colville, W. Anthony, H. W. Layton, R. Kingsbury, Miss E. V. Danard, Mesdames F. Miller, E. Grozinsky, F. Miller, R. Kingsbury, F. Miller and A. Campbell. In 1950 there were 57 members who gave \$570 to Missions.

In 1949 Miss K. Metheral, R.N., of Norwood Church was commissioned a Missionary of the W.M.S. and went to serve in India.

**NORWOOD EVENING AUXILIARY**—Norwood Evening Auxiliary known as "Lillian Smith," was organized in 1929. Mrs. L. A. McTaggart became the first President. Others to succeed her were:—Mesdames J. W. Francis, L. McTaggart, P. Phelps, W. R. Baker, R. Haliburton, J. L. Ramsay, C. J. Upright, L. E. Balsdon, L. O. Sanders and S. P. Giebelhause. In 1950 there were 25 members who gave \$360.57.

**MING KWANG EVENING AUXILIARY**—Was organized in 1950 with Miss M. Forge as the first President.

**ROBERTSON**—Robertson Auxiliary was organized in 1911 with Mrs. J. A. Jaffray as the first President. Others who acted as President before Church Union were:—Mesdames D. N. MacLeod, J. A. Fairley, D. N. MacLeod, J. A. Fairley, J. S. MacDonald and W. D. Ramsay. In 1924 there were 37 members who contributed \$289.82 to Missions. Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames R. B. Wells, L. McIntyre, S. A. Dickson, J. E. Duclos, S. A. Dickson, J. F. Brander, W. Johnston, W. S. Smith, E. W. S. Kane, J. C. Natress, J. Hawthorne and F. L. Corbett. In 1950 there were 89 members who donated the sum of \$1,440 to the W.M.S.

**ROBERTSON EVENING AUXILIARY**—Robertson Evening Auxiliary the "Beth Imrie" was organized in 1947. The Presidents have been Miss J. Smart, Mrs. C. Heath, Miss A. Dickson and Miss L. Knight. In 1950 there were 18 members who gave \$160 to Missions.

**WESLEY**—A Methodist W.M.S. was begun in Wesley in 1908. Before Church Union the Presidents were:—Mesdames Campbell, W. G. Ash, J. A. Downs, T. C. Buchanan, J. R. Orr, H. A. Craig, J. B. Alcock, W. D. Chappelle and W. H. Sterne. In 1924 there were 92 members who gave \$508.98. Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames H. R. Smith, W. H. Sterne, J. R. K. Graham, H. R. Smith, A. E. Cook, H. A. Craig, A. E. Moore, H. Weber, G. P. Johnston and J. F. MacKenzie. In 1950 there were 23 members who raised \$352.27 for Missions.

**WEST END EVENING AUXILIARY**—Was begun in 1950 with Mrs. R. G. Gordon as the President.

**WESLEY EVENING AUXILIARY**—Wesley Evening Auxiliary was begun in 1927. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames C. MacDonald, G. Andrews, L. Cobbledick, Miss F. Wood, Mesdames G. R. Brasnett, W. Butters, Miss J. Pointer, Mesdames J. W. Williams, C. E. Miller, G. R. Cook, H. S. Fawcett, L. Thompson, M. D. McLennan and H. Flewelling. In 1950 there were 33 members who gave \$431.70. This Auxiliary was honored when Mrs. C. E. Miller became Branch President in 1947 as only two Branch Presidents have come from Evening Auxiliaries.

**FORT SASKATCHEWAN**—The Auxiliary was begun in 1906 as a W.H.M.S. of the Presbyterian Church. It was called "The Forbes"

Auxiliary. During that first year the Auxiliary members took responsibility of the temporary hospital during a typhoid epidemic. Before Union the Presidents were:—Mesdames A. Forbes, Sutherland, A. Paul, M. S. Kerr and A. H. Gibson. In 1924 there were 15 members giving \$39.70.

A Methodist Society was started in 1910. Its Presidents were:—Mesdames A. V. M. Campbell, F. W. Richardson, E. B. Johnson, A. H. Rowe, M. L. Wright and J. Harris. In 1924 there were 28 members who gave \$55.30. Since Church Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames C. E. Pocock, F. E. Evans, W. A. Wilmeroth, D. C. Ramsay, J. L. O'Brien, D. C. Ramsay, H. Watt, A. Williston and J. L. O'Brien. In 1950 there were 7 members giving \$100.

LEDUC—Leduc Society began as a Presbyterian organization in 1906. Early Presidents were:—Mesdames F. McRae, Reikie, J. Baker, W. B. Smith, J. A. Wheeler, F. J. McRae and D. M. Colquhoun. In 1924 there were 24 members who gave \$110. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames D. M. Colquhoun, G. Peck, K. B. McRae, A. R. Ennis, J. Rimington and Lowrie. In 1950 there were 15 members contributing \$275.

NAMAO—Namacos began in 1908 as a Presbyterian W.H.M.S. Early Presidents were:—Mesdames S. J. Bentley, J. A. Smith, Weeks, J. Smith, A. J. Martyn, R. N. Matheson, J. S. Samis and W. Mayfield. In 1924 there were 24 members who donated \$56.23 to Missions. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. S. Samis, L. Crozier, W. F. Craig, J. Brunton and J. S. Samis. In 1950 there were 19 members giving \$100.

PARTRIDGE HILL—Mrs. R. Smith was President of a Presbyterian W.M.S. which began in 1916 but lapsed a short time later. In 1927 the organization was revived. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. Ottewell, W. Alton, C. H. Flintoff, V. Lawrence, F. Kulak, A. Osbaldeston, V. R. Lawrence, A. E. Frey, A. Whitson and G. Osbaldeston. In 1950 there were 19 members giving \$100.

PATRICIA—Patricia was organized as a Presbyterian Auxiliary in 1917. Before 1925 the Presidents were:—Mesdames J. A. Smith, S. J. Carlyle and J. A. Smith. In 1924 there were 11 members who gave \$126.32. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames S. G. Carlyle, G. Speer, A. J. Martyn, G. S. Speer, J. S. Smith and G. Speer. In 1950 there were 9 members giving \$123.50.

SALISBURY—An Auxiliary at Salisbury was newly organized in 1939. Before it became a Federation in 1947 the Presidents were:—Mesdames F. R. Haythorne and H. Craig. Since then the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. W. Hosford, N. Ottewell and J. Stannard. In 1950 there were 17 members who donated \$107.56.

In 1925 Edmonton Presbyterial was composed of 17 Auxiliaries, 2 Young Women's Auxiliaries, 8 Mission Circles, 20 Mission Bands and 5 Associate Societies. In 1950 there were:—18 Auxiliaries, 14 Evening Auxiliaries, 29 Affiliated Societies, 5 Mission Circles, 21 Affiliated Explorer Groups, 18 Baby Bands, and 44 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.

## HIGH RIVER PRESBYTERIAL

HIGH RIVER—A Presbyterian Presbyterial was formed in High River in Feb. 1916 with Mrs. Hutchinson of Okotoks as the first President. Before this date High River Missionary work was included and reported in the Calgary Presbyterial. Presbyterial Presidents to follow Mrs. Hutchinson were:—Mesdames J. W. Stevenson and W. McNichol.

As Church Union approached the final Presbyterial Executive meeting held in Okotoks April 22nd, 1926 concluded the minutes with the words, "We have done a great deal of good work and now united may we go forth stronger than ever before, and give the Gospel to all men."

Organizers for the Methodist Missionary work in the High River district were:—Mrs. A. M. Scott and Mrs. A. Barner. In 1918 they became known as District Superintendents and before 1925 were:—Mesdames A. M. Scott, W. Parker, F. W. Locke, G. Coote and D. L. Loree.

The uniting missionary societies appointed Mrs. W. McNichol of the Presbyterian body and Mrs. W. Parker of the Methodist Society to make arrangements for the union of the two societies (there was no Congregational Church in this area.) The Representatives of the uniting organizations met in Chalmers United Church, High River. Mrs. McNichol presided. Mrs. Parker acted as secretary and Mrs. A. M. Scott addressed the inaugural gathering telling of the work being done by the W.M.S. and explaining the new constitution and by-laws. Mrs. D. L. Loree of Nanton gave a resume of the Methodist work and Mrs. G. McIrvine spoke of the Presbyterian activities.

Since Union the Presbyterial Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. McNichol, F. W. Locke, A. Rannie, W. C. Scott, H. S. Jenkins, R. W. Dalgleish, A. J. Thomson, F. J. McKeague, W. C. Gibbard and F. Hartwick.

A short history of the present Auxiliaries follows:—

ALDERSYDE—Aldersyde Auxiliary began as a Presbyterian W.M.S. in 1916. Mrs. J. Hutchinson was President of the 17 members. Since then the Presidents have been:—Mesdames Pratt, J. Hutchinson, H. Bridges and J. Hutchinson. In 1924 there were 12 members who contributed \$85.39. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames M. J. Hutchinson, A. W. Roland, H. S. Jenkins, R. Fowler, F. McCullough and A. Dobson. In 1950 there were 17 members who gave \$236.46.

BLACKIE—Blackie was a newly organized Auxiliary of the Methodist Church in 1928. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames G. H. Peacock, A. J. Thomson, L. A. Newman, A. J. Thomson, Miss R. Bowlus, Mesdames A. Tomkins, A. J. Thomson and H. H. Meadows. In 1950 there were 11 members who raised \$217.56.

CAYLEY—Cayley was organized by the Presbyterian W.M.S. in 1919. The Presidents before Union were:—Mesdames T. Saunders, W. Caspell and N.D. Scott. In 1924 there were 17 members giving \$154. A Methodist Auxiliary was begun in 1920. The President before 1925 was Mrs. J. S. Elves. In 1924 there were 20 members who donated \$106. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames N. D. Scott, J. C. Thompson, R. McPherson, J. H. Bevan and H. D. Johnson. In 1950 there were 13 members who raised \$132.40 for Missions.

CLARESHOLM—In 1905 seven members organized into an Auxiliary of the Methodist Society. (No President is listed till 1912). From 1912 to Union the Presidents were:—Mesdames J. M. Harrison, E. G. Barber, Miss Murray, Mesdames F. W. Locke, C. Coutts and M. Hillrud. In 1924 there were 23 members who contributed \$336.29. From 1909 there was a Presbyterian W.M.S. also. Early Presidents were:—Mesdames J. F. Miller, F. Cumming, W. McNichol, W. J. Kidd and Miss N. Blain. In 1924 there were 19 members who raised \$101.67. Since Union Presidents have been:—Miss N. Blain (from 1925 - 42), Mesdames J. D. Dickinson, J. Haslam, R. B. Tillman and B. Bird. In 1950 there were 38 members giving \$558.48.

GRANUM—A W.H.M.S. began in Granum in 1914. Early Presidents of this Presbyterian organization were:—Mesdames J. McInnis, T. McDougall, R. A. MacLeod, J. A. McGregor and G. W. Langille. In 1924 there were 42 members who gave \$124.30. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames G. W. Langille, R. F. McDougall, E. J. Dimm, R. F. McDougall, J. V. Howey, G. Henker, R. F. McDougall and M. Mason. It is now a Federation. In 1950 there were 12 members who raised \$89.50.

HIGH RIVER—A Methodist organization was begun in High River in 1912 with Mrs. R. W. Dalgleish as the first President. Before Union other Presidents were:—Mesdames W. T. Gordon, W. Parker and G. Mack. In 1924 there were 16 members giving \$80. A Presbyterian Society was started in 1913 with Mrs. J. MacKenzie as President followed by Mrs. W. McNichol. In 1924 there were 19 members who contributed \$113.06. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. McNichol, W. Parker, G. McIrvine, F. McKeague, G. McIrvine, W. J. Noble, H. B. McLeod, T. Findlay, G. B. Miles, Miss J. Nesbit, Mrs. K. Peterson and Mrs. C. Gasser. In 1950 there were 34 members who raised \$558.80.

NANTON—In the North West Branch record of the Methodist Church W.M.S. Nanton is listed as a new Auxiliary in 1905. The Presidents were:—Mesdames A. E. Burnett, C. W. Coote, J. Caswell, A. A. Lytle, D. L. Loree and A. W. Coone. In 1924 there were 42 members who gave \$324 to the W.M.S. A W.M.S. of the Presbyterian Society began in 1908. Presidents were:—Mesdames Sterling, A. J. Robertson, J. McLeod, W. Little, J. G. McLean, J. W. Stevenson, R. May, J. G. McLean and W. H. Allan. In 1924 there were 21 members who contributed \$135. Since Union the Presidents have

been:—Mesdames D. L. Loree, F. W. Locke, W. C. Scott, W. H. Hunter, O. Mythaler, D. L. Loree, W. C. Scott, F. A. Dwelle, D. L. Loree, W. C. Scott, C. S. Pinder, J. May, J. Fawcett, G. Elliott and D. R. Loree. In 1950 there were 21 members who gave \$451.16.

OKOTOKS—An Auxiliary of the Presbyterian W.M.S. began in 1909 in Okotoks. Early Presidents were:—Mesdames J. G. McIvor, Murray, C. B. Kerr, W. J. Kidd and T. W. Kadey. In 1924 there were 22 members who donated \$125.70. Since 1924 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. L. Rowe, C. E. Pocock, W. C. Gibbard, J. R. Geeson, W. C. Gibbard and M. Bailey. In 1950 there were 21 members who gave \$359.38.

STAVELY—Before Union the Presidents of Stavely Auxiliary, from its beginning as a Methodist organization in 1920 were Mrs. W. S. Gordon and Mrs. W. J. Perrott. In 1924 there were 7 members giving \$72.10. Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames H. E. Irwin, W. S. Gordon, J. Watson, S. A. McNeil and E. G. Tyson. In 1950 there were 12 members who gave \$180.

TONGUE CREEK—(Lower) Lower Tongue Creek was organized as a Presbyterian W.M.S. in 1921. Before 1928 the Presidents were:—Mesdames G. Hartwick and D. Morrison. At that time it joined with the Upper Tongue Creek Society, which also had been organized in 1921. Upper Tongue Creek Presidents were:—Mesdames G. Campbell, G. H. McKee, C. N. Cowling and A. Netzke. Following the union of these two organizations the Presidents were:—Mesdames W. B. Rogers, F. J. Hartell, C. Gasser, G. Cowling, C. L. Gasser, T. Hanson, W. McGillivray, G. Cowling, A. King and A. W. King. In 1950 there were 26 members who contributed \$195.

VULCAN—Vulcan was began as a Methodist Auxiliary in 1921 with Mrs. J. N. Brunton as President. Since Church Union in 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. N. Brunton, L. F. Dawson, P. McAskile, J. N. Brunton, W. D. Allan, D. B. Lockhart, G. Pettiman, L. F. Dawson, H. Ulrich, W. Myers, W. D. Allan, W. Jamison, L. Dawson, R. Gold and D. Jantzie. In 1950 there were 15 members who raised \$211 for Missions of the W.M.S.

In 1925 High River Presbyterial comprised 10 Auxiliaries, 1 Young Women's Auxiliary, 1 Mission Circle, 7 Mission Bands, 1 Baby Band and 6 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups. In 1950 there were 11 Auxiliaries, 4 Affiliated Societies, 11 Mission Bands, 7 Baby Bands and 9 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.

## LETHBRIDGE PRESBYTERIAL

Before Church Union there were both Methodist and Presbyterian Missionary organizations in the Lethbridge area. Presidents of the Presbyterial for the Presbyterian work were:—Mesdames C. McKillop, W. M. McLure, J. P. Jones and D. K. Allan. For the Methodist Societies the Organizers were:—Mesdames D. G. Shouldice, T. W. Quayle, W. A. Lewis and C. E. Brandow. Superintendents (new name instead of Organizers begun in 1918) were:—Mesdames

L. Norman and C. E. Brandow. Since Union the Presbyterian Presidents have been:—Mesdames C. McKillop, C. E. Brandow, G. Ross, A. H. Denoon, J. M. Pritchard, W. L. McKenzie, A. M. Moe, D. J. Lonsberry and J. Boorman.

A list of the present Auxiliaries and a short record of each follows:—

**BLAIRMORE**—Blairmore was a new Auxiliary in 1946 with Mrs. J. Boorman as President. Her successors have been Mrs. G. Bannon and Mrs. V. Purnell. In 1950 there were 10 members giving \$144.34.

**COALDALE**—Coaldale W.M.S. began as a Methodist organization in 1913. The Presidents before Union were:—Mesdames B. S. Pawson, J. J. Leffler, G. Hughes, A. J. Law, L. Shrumm and J. Hodgson. In 1924 there were 8 members giving \$103.45. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. J. Leffler, McGorman, N. Wells, H. Whaley, L. R. Shrumm, L. R. McDonald, R. I. Baker, C. Shrumm, H. W. Rowley, M. L. Thompson and F. Pearson. In 1950 there were 19 members who contributed \$187.26.

**COLEMAN**—Coleman Auxiliary began as a W.H.M.S. of the Presbyterian work, in 1910 with Mrs. T. M. Murray as the first President. Others to follow her were:—Mesdames H. James, A. McLeod, J. Allan, A. McLeod, and D. K. Allan. In 1924 there were 18 members who donated \$139.35 to Missions. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. Fairhurst, H. J. Bevan, H. Dunlop, J. Fairhurst, R. Taylor, R. Holmes, R. Magowan and J. Owen. In 1950 there were 16 members giving \$212.90.

**IRON SPRINGS**—A Methodist Auxiliary began at Iron Springs in 1914. Before 1925 the Presidents were:—Mesdames A. Jones, A. L. Powell, T. Hyman, C. R. Corcoran, N. W. Oliver and E. T. Gordon. In 1924 there were 14 members who raised \$28.93. Since Church Union (1925) the Presidents have been:—Mesdames H. Oliver, J. McKelvey, J. E. Tennant, K. G. Dalglish, H. W. Oliver, H. Arthur, D. H. Oliver, H. R. Hunt, J. E. Tennant and N. M. Oliver. In 1950 there were 16 members giving \$100.01.

**LETHBRIDGE—FIRST**—First United has been known by several names over the years, at the beginning it was named Westminster. As Westminster it was a Methodist W.M.S. begun in 1908 because of the missionary zeal of the Minister's wife who became the first President. Presidents were:— Mesdames A. A. Lytle, W. P. J. Alexander and J. McElvena. In 1917 Westminster became known as Union North and later, in 1919 as United. The Presidents Were:— Mesdames Holt, G. Ross, J. B. Gray, G. Ross and H. H. Bruce. In 1924 there were 32 members who raised \$287.25. Since Church Union this Auxiliary has been called First United. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames H. H. Bruce, G. Ross, C. A. King, G. Ross, R. Magowan, F. Jackson, N. W. Whitmore and R. H. Atkins. In 1950 there were 16 members giving \$260.71.

**SOUTHMINSTER**—Southminster is composed of Knox, St. Andrews and Wesley Auxiliaries. Knox W.F.M.S. was organized in



January 1892. An early record says, "Our first regular meeting was held February 1st with eight ladies present. A pleasant and profitable hour was closed by a sentence prayer from each member present." Early Presidents to 1914 were:—Mesdames C. McKillop, G. H. Johnson, G. Bremner, A. B. McKenzie, J. Henderson, J. Scott, B. Piper, Robson, J. D. Higinbotham, H. Scott, J. D. Higinbotham, W. H. Conibear, W. McClure and I. Hooper. A Home Missionary Society was begun in 1906. Its Presidents until 1914 were Miss J. Bruce and Miss J. McLeay.

In 1914 the Home and Foreign Societies united and became one organization throughout Canada.

St. Andrews was a new Presbyterian W.M.S. in 1914 with Mrs. G. Ross as President until it joined with Knox in 1918 and continued as Knox.

Presidents of Knox W.M.S. from 1914 until Church Union (1925) were:—Mrs. W. McClure, Miss J. McLeay, Mesdames W. L. McKenzie, C. McCleneghan and W. L. McKenzie. In 1924 there were 47 members who contributed \$573.76. From 1925-35 (when Wesley entered the fellowship) Knox Presidents were:—Mesdames W. L. McKenzie, A. Horspool, K. W. Reikie, J. C. Livingstone, S. Bennett, W. L. McKenzie and A. H. Denoon.

Wesley was a Methodist society begun in 1905 with eleven members and continued till 1935 when it United with Knox. The Presidents were Mesdames W. S. Galbraith, Foster, L. P. Perry, C. E. Brandow, C. R. Daniels, R. E. Skeith, C. E. Brandow, A. Dowsley, W. S. Galbraith, C. R. Daniels, W. S. Galbraith, R. J. Follis, C. R. Daniels and C. E. Brandow.

After the union of Knox and Wesley they became known as Southminster. The Auxiliary Presidents since then have been:—Mesdames J. S. Stewart, W. L. McKenzie, C. E. Brandow, T. Lanier, A. M. Moe, E. E. Dutton, H. B. Kennedy, A. W. Kress, D. J. Lonsberry, E. E. Dutton and T. S. Lanier. In 1950 there were 41 members who gave \$1,250.

**SOUTHMINSTER EVENING AUXILIARY**—This Auxiliary was begun in 1927. The Presidents have been:—Miss L. M. Brownlee, Mrs. R. Marshall, Miss A. Davidson, Mrs. M. Scott, Mrs. A. Duff, Miss P. Osborne, Miss J. Milligan, Miss R. Caley, Miss V. Cross, Mrs. Wiig, Mrs. W. S. Scott, Mrs. L. J. Duff and Miss D. Lewis. In 1950 there were 13 members who contributed \$240.

**MACLEOD**—In 1901 a Society for Foreign work in the Presbyterian Church was begun in Macleod. Its Presidents were:—Mesdames R. J. Jaffray, Millican, W. Gardiner, J. Dunlop, R. J. Gardiner and Robertson. A Home organization began in 1910. Its Presidents were:—Mesdames J. Dunlop, A. J. E. Gardiner, Robertson and T. S. McLean. After the Union of Home and Foreign work in 1914 the Presidents were:—Mesdames E. Whipple, Tripp and Miss Muir. In 1924 there were 24 members giving \$93.92. A Methodist W.M.S. was

new in Macleod in 1908. The Presidents were:—Miss E. S. Baker, Mesdames R. J. Follis, J. A. Virtue, W. A. Lewis, P. Brooks and J. Griffin. Since Church Union the Presidents of Macleod W.M.S. have been:—Mesdames T. S. McLean, J. W. MacDonald, A. L. Elliott, T. S. McLean, H. E. Hunt, W. Stevenson, H. E. Hunt, V. M. Gilbert, W. J. Huston, H. E. Hunt and J. Boorman. In 1950 there were 28 members who gave \$140.

**PINCHER CREEK**—An organization of the Home Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church began in Pincher Creek in 1906 and continued until 1917. During that time the Presidents were:—Mesdames Osborne, W. Aitchinson, R. Duthie, R. McLeod, M. Long, R. Cooper, P. Bertles, W. Lees and R. O. Allison.

Mrs. A. A. Lyt'e organized a Methodist W.M.S. in 1910. The Presidents were:—Mesdames E. Allison, H. Halton and T. W. Morden. After the Presbyterian and Methodist organizations united in 1917 until Church Union in 1925 the Presidents were:—Mrs. H. Halton and Mrs. W. R. Lees. In 1924 there were 37 members who donated \$150. Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. Lees, R. Buchanan, W. A. Fraser, H. Halton, N. W. Whitmore, J. A. Duthie, J. F. Carlson, E. G. Tucker, A. Armstrong, R. Magowan, H. Halton, E. Duffield, J. McRae, H. Halton, J. Robertson and J. Halton. In 1950 there were 23 members giving \$310.

**SPRING COULEE**—There was an Affiliated Society at Spring Coulee until 1935 when it became an Auxiliary. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. Wood, S. M. Rice, W. M. Wood, C. Hay and F. J. Brown. In 1950 there were 11 members who contributed \$75.

**TABER**—Early Presidents of the Presbyterian Society at Taber were:—Mesdames J. R. Munroe, A. C. Bryan, L. E. Lynd, J. T. Willard, A. C. Bryan, Beard, Mitchell and H. P. Munroe. In 1924 there were 25 members who raised \$96.25 for Missions. There was a Methodist W.M.S. at Taber from 1916. The Presidents were:—Mesdames T. Phillips, H. A. Cook and M. E. Wiggins. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. Jenkins, Rowley, H. A. Cook, H. Munro, W. H. Irwin, E. R. Vickery, A. L. Elliott, E. R. Vickery, A. E. Mitchell, A. Rowley, J. Soroohan and G. McKillikan. In 1950 there were 9 members giving \$120.06.

**TABER EVENING AUXILIARY**—Taber Evening Auxiliary was organized in 1926. The Presidents have been:—Miss E. Woodhouse, Mrs. J. S. M. Thomson, Misses J. MacAskill, M. T. Serrie, Mrs. H. Vickery, Miss E. Meikle, Miss E. Smolek, Mesdames J. Gillanders, M. Rett, L. C. Haworth, M. D. Rett and S. Wilkins. In 1950 there were 21 members who raised \$120 for Missions.

In Lethbridge Presbyterial in 1925 there were 12 Auxiliaries, 1 Young Women's Auxiliary, 2 Mission Circles, 5 Mission Bands and 5 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups. In 1950 there were 10 Auxiliaries, 2 Evening Auxiliaries, 3 Affiliated Societies, 7 Mission Bands, 9 Baby Bands and 3 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.

## MEDICINE HAT PRESBYTERIAL

Presbyterial Presidents for the Presbyterian work from 1916 to Church Union (1925) were:— Mesdames W. Williamson, J. A. Claxton and H. Lang.

District Organizers for the Methodist W.M.S. were:—Mesdames D. G. Shouldice, J. Trimble, L. Parkins and B. Oxley. District Superintendents were:—Mesdames A. McCarter, H. W. Finch and J. McAmmond.

Since Church Union the Presbyterial Presidents have been:— Mesdames J. McAmmond, R. Magowan, B. F. Souch, J. McAmmond, E. L. Milne, A. W. Cann, R. B. Layton, H. M. Horricks, Miss E. Souch and Mrs. L. J. Williams.

A short record of the present Auxiliaries follows:—

**BROOKS**—Brooks graduated in 1927 from an Associate Society to become an Auxiliary. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. J. Moore, J. L. Dickie, I. Robertson, L. Nelson, F. Hansen, L. Nelson, J. Cann, M. Wilfley and J. B. Potter. In 1950 there were 27 members raising \$200 for Missions.

**MEDICINE HAT—FIFTH AVENUE**—The second Methodist Auxiliary in Alberta was organized in Medicine Hat in 1893 through the influence of Mrs. F. W. Locke, who became the first President. Others to follow her were:—Mesdames J. C. Colter, F. McEvans, J. W. Saunby, Harrison, F. McEvans, W. J. Walton, J. C. Colter, W. J. Walton, F. Parkins, B. F. Souch, I. Poole, A. McCarter, Miss E. Royce and Mrs. B. F. Souch. In 1924 there were 119 members who contributed \$386.12. Since Union the Presidents have been:— Mesdames B. F. Souch, W. Hall, J. McAmmond, B. F. Souch, R. C. Black, W. Riley, Miss A. Pollitt, Mesdames R. Dunn, F. S. Carr, E. S. Bomford, R. Dunn, A. G. Trotman, J. H. Mills and Miss A. Lokier. In 1950 there were 33 members who raised \$329.11.

**MEMORIAL**—Memorial is composed of Knox Presbyterian and Washington Ave. Methodist. Knox began in 1905, its Presidents were:—Mesdames W. M. Williamson, J. Malcolm, Miss Rorke, Mesdames H. B. Osborn, R. A. Sewell, E. E. Hench, Harvey, W. A. Rose, A. Tul and R. A. Gordon. In 1924 there were 24 members who donated \$155. Washington Avenue Methodist was organized in 1915. Presidents before Church Union were:—Mesdames H. W. Finch and E. Davies. In 1924 there were 17 members giving \$182.64. Since 1925 the Presidents of Memorial have been:—Mesdames R. Magowan, T. A. Mills, D. Taylor, J. A. Claxton, H. V. Ellison, D. Taylor, H. M. Horricks and B. Mattson. In 1950 there were 11 members giving \$83.

**WESTMINSTER**—An organization of the Presbyterian Society began in 1913. The Presidents have been:—Mrs. R. A. Sewell, Miss Best, Miss M. Smith, Mesdames H. Lang, E. L. Milne and A. F. LePage. In 1924 there were 21 members who gave \$307. Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames C. Pratt, H. A. McLeod, A. J. LePage,

A. W. Cann, E. V. Young, H. Lang, R. B. Layton, Miss H. T. Morrison, Mesdames H. Lang, R. B. Layton and L. J. Williams. In 1950 there were 15 members and their contribution to Missions was \$209.88.

**WESTMINSTER EVENING AUXILIARY**—Westminster Evening Auxiliary was organized in 1938. The Presidents have been Misses G. Rae, A. B. McFarlane, H. T. Morrison, A. Shjenna, Mrs. M. Rae, Miss O. Johnson, Miss R. H. Henderson, Mrs. H. Kay, Miss J. Murphy and Miss J. Kent. In 1950 there were 20 members who contributed \$125.

**MEDICINE HAT EVENING AUXILIARY**—A United Evening Auxiliary was organized at Union. The Presidents have been:—Misses K. Osborne, E. Hole, K. Osborne, M. Carr, S. M. Gordon, M. Morrison, P. Dunn, S. Gordon, B. Alger, Mrs. G. Davison, Misses M. Carr, I. Lapp, M. Carr, E. Souch, L. Mennear, S. Gordon, A. Lokier, M. Morrison and P. Hart. In 1950 there were 20 members who contributed \$294.

**REDCLIFF**—An Auxiliary of the Presbyterian Society began in Redcliff in 1914. It represented both Foreign and Home Work. Its Presidents were:—Mesdames G. L. Gordon and A. W. Woodcock. In 1924 there were 16 members who raised \$79.36. Since Union (1925) the Presidents have been:—Mesdames R. N. Matheson, W. A. Woodcock and W. Thacker. Mrs. Thacker has served as President since 1928, a record of long time service as leader. In 1950 there were 17 members giving \$165. Redcliff is justly proud of Miss F. Buckles, R.N., who since 1941 has been serving as a missionary Nurse in India.

In Medicine Hat Presbyterial in 1925 there were 8 Auxiliaries, 1 Young Women's Auxiliary, 1 Mission Circle, 1 Associate Society, 3 Mission Bands and 13 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups. In 1950 there were 5 Auxiliaries, 2 Evening Auxiliaries, 2 Affiliated Societies, 5 Mission Bands, 2 Baby Bands and 3 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.

#### **PEACE RIVER PRESBYTERIAL**

Peace River Presbyterial was known as Grande Prairie until 1949. It was organized in 1926. Since then the Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. Graham, A. R. Judson, L. C. Porteous, J. Archer, A. W. Cann, J. Archer, H. C. Melsness, R. Harper and T. W. Lawlor.

A short history of the present Auxiliaries follows:—

**BEAVER LODGE**—Beaver Lodge Auxiliary began in 1928. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. Fowler, H. McNaughton, A. F. Thrower, C. Johnston, A. Moore, A. Olson and R. Carrel. In 1950 there were 9 members giving \$44.14.

**GRANDE PRAIRIE**—Dr. and Mrs. A. Forbes were pioneer missionaries in Grande Prairie. Before going to Grande Prairie they had spent fifteen years in the first Church established at Fort Saskatchewan. In 1910 they left there and after travelling for seventy-three days reached Grande Prairie and began a Church there. They soon saw the need for a medical worker and because of their request and before navigation closed for the winter, Miss Agnes Baird arrived from Edmonton to assist Dr. and Mrs. Forbes, who for a time ac-

commodated patients in their own home. Through the influence of Mrs. Forbes an Affiliated Society was started in 1911 and carried on until 1918 when it became an Auxiliary connected with the Edmonton Presbytery.

The Presidents have been:—Mesdames L. Porteous, O'Brien, A. Forbes and L. C. Porteous. In 1924 there were 19 members who gave \$78.75. Since Union it has been known as St. Paul's United Auxiliary. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. R. Judson, McKenzie, L. C. Porteous, O'Brien, N. Chappell, F. Crummy, Falconer, T. V. Macklim, E. J. Sterling, F. Crummy, R. Harper, J. Sedare and T. W. Lawlor. In 1950 there were 18 members and the money contributed was \$175.

McLENNAN—McLennan is a new Auxiliary organized in 1950 with 10 members and Mrs. R. Clegg as President.

PEACE RIVER—Peace River Auxiliary was began in 1946. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames H. G. Pritchard, B. Forseth, C. Harrop and R. Lane. In 1950 there were 18 members who gave \$90.47 to Missions.

WEMBLEY—The Society at Wembley has been in operation since 1934. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. Archer, T. Watson, D. Paul, G. Farquhar and J. A. Boorman. In 1950 there were 9 members who contributed \$38.28.

In Peace River Presbyterial in 1950 there were:—5 Auxiliaries, 8 Affiliated Societies, 7 Mission Bands, 12 Baby Bands and 5 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups. The Presbyterial began with 2 Auxiliaries, 2 Mission Bands and 3 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.

Glowing tribute is paid to the many devoted women, who through the years have given generously of their talents and abilities to maintain and promote the missionary cause in Peace River Presbyterial.

## RED DEER PRESBYTERIAL—

Red Deer Presbyterial is composed of two Presbyterials since 1947, they are: Red Deer and Lacombe.

Lacombe Presbyterial was organized in 1909 with Mrs. A. D. Archibald as the first President. Later Presidents were: Mesdames P. A. McDonald, F. R. Dredge and P. McDonald. From 1925 to 1947 the Presidents were:—Mesdames P. A. Rainforth, R. B. Layton, P. A. Rainforth, R. Hainsworth, H. D. Leitch, A. Johnson, J. Watt, J. E. Love and W. East.

Red Deer Presbyterial was organized in 1913. Early Presidents of this Presbyterian Presbyterial were:—Mesdames W. G. Brown, J. Shortt, G. W. Scott, G. Peattie and W. J. Brown. Since 1925 to 1947 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. W. Carscadden, M. Malyon, G. F. Norris, O. W. Thorne, J. Boorman, S. A. Fox and G. R. Holetton.

For the Methodist work District Organizers for Red Deer were:—Mesdames F. W. Galbraith, C. H. Huestis, A. Barner and E. Graves. District Superintendents were:—Mesdames R. C. Oxtoby and F. W. Locke. For Lacombe—Mrs. E. Graves and Mrs. A. C. Johnston.

Since the Union of Red Deer and Lacombe the Presidents have been:—Mrs. W. East and Mrs. M. W. Malyon.

A short history of the present Auxiliaries follows:—

BENTLEY—Bentley was a new Methodist organization in 1912. The Presidents before Union (1925) were:—Mesdames C. C. Miles, A. D. Miller, G. Court, J. F. Miller, L. M. Lorimer, J. B. Lane, L. M. Lorimer and C. F. Dameron. In 1924 there were 13 members giving \$41.09. Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. F. Miller, C. F. Dawson, J. F. Miller, J. C. McLennan and G. Wright. In 1950 there were 21 members who contributed \$130.95.

BOWDEN—Bowden graduated from an Affiliated Society to an Auxiliary in 1945. The Presidents have been Mrs. K. S. McLaren and Mrs. C. Miller. In 1950 there were 12 members giving \$87.57.

CARSTAIRS—Carstairs began as a Presbyterian Society in 1912. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames Craig, J. B. Kelly, C. W. Hislop and R. J. Chrystal. In 1924 there were 16 members giving \$50.98. In 1929 a United Auxiliary was begun. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames M. Ing, R. Sterling, J. A. Boucock, O. Rostrup, J. F. Trick, G. G. Pybus and M. H. C. Ford. In 1950 there were 17 members giving \$168.91.

DIDSBURY—A Society of the W.F.M.S. of the Presbyterian Church began in Didsbury in 1908. The Presidents were:—Mesdames J. G. McLeod, W. Marshall, R. Moore, Stark, W. Marshall, P. Reed, R. Moore, D. H. Marshall and Osmond. The organization lapsed in 1919 until a few years later when it revived as an Affiliated Society until 1938 when it again became an Auxiliary. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. Boorman, J. M. Fawcett, J. Boorman, R. Eckel, E. Ford and B. Parker. In 1950 there were 13 members who donated \$150.17.

INNISFAIL—In 1913 a W.M.S. of the Presbyterian Church was begun in Innisfail. The Presidents were:—Mesdames J. Simpson, G. Munro and P. Fisher. In 1924 there were 14 members giving \$194.08.

A Methodist W.M.S. began in 1918. The Presidents were:—Mesdames A. A. Lytle, R. C. Oxtoby and A. A. Graham. In 1924 there were 23 members giving \$106.

Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames C. J. Edwards, W. J. Huston, J. Laidler, T. J. Stainton, S. Pike, J. C. Calder, R. Simon, S. A. Fox and H. Murgatroyd. In 1950 there were 17 members giving \$286.03.

**JONES VALLEY**—An Affiliated Society at Jones Valley became an Auxiliary in 1948. The President has been Mrs. K. S. Leader. In 1950 there were 11 members who gave \$100.

**LACOMBE**—In 1906 a W.H.M.S. began in Lacombe. The Presidents were:—Mesdames M. Latimer, P. McDonald, A. Gilmour and P. McDonald. In 1924 there were 28 members who contributed \$176.50. Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames R. B. Layton, W. C. Sweet, A. P. Rainforth, U. E. Reeves, J. E. Love, A. L. Carr, J. E. Love, W. C. Sweet and J. McRae. In 1950 there were 22 members giving \$250.

**SPRING VALLEY**—Spring Valley began as a Methodist Society in 1920. The presidents have been:—Mesdames R. Hainsworth, P. S. Cull, W. N. Randall, R. Hainsworth, N. Randall and R. Hainsworth. In 1950 there were 15 members giving \$210.

**OLDS**—A W.M.S. of the Methodist Church was started in Olds in 1905. The Presidents were:—Mesdames E. Husband, F. Landon, R. P. Hughes, M. W. Craig, J. H. Johnson, M. E. Strong, W. H. Hunter and J. H. Johnson. In 1924 there were 30 members giving \$219.60.

An organization of the Presbyterian Society began in 1906. The Presidents were:—Mesdames L. Crummy, W. Brown, P. Jeffery, D. K. Grant, J. Shortt, W. S. McKinnon, P. Jaffery and G. Peattie. In 1924 there were 10 members giving \$75.86.

Since Church Union (1925) the Presidents have been:—Mesdames R. M. Harding, W. H. Hunter, V. M. Gilbert, C. C. Hartman, N. W. Whitmore, A. L. Elliott, M. W. Malyon and J. C. Turple. In 1950 there were 27 members who raised \$295.74.

**PONOKA**—A Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church began in Ponoka in 1909 and continued until 1914 when it united with the Home Missionary Society. Presidents of the W.F.M.S. were:—Mesdames R. Foote and J. Biggs. The W.H.M.S. had as Presidents Mrs. A. F. Turner, Mrs. R. Foote and Mrs. Howell. After 1914 Mrs. J. A. Wheeler acted as President.

A Methodist organization began in 1915 with Mrs. C. H. Cummings as President. These three organizations became a Union Auxiliary in 1917 with the following Presidents:—Mesdames T. West, G. Bowker, G. E. Clarke, H. Miller and F. J. Stanley. In 1924 there were 11 members giving \$51.50. Since then the Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. B. Francis, H. Millar, W. Glauser, H. Miller, G. Murdock, M. Trimble, W. James, J. Watt, P. MacDonald, W. Park, J. Ramsay, S. Kirkpatrick and M. Martin. In 1950 there were 28 members whose givings amounted to \$350.

Miss E. M. Laycock was commissioned a Missionary of the W.M.S. in 1924. Since then she has served in several Home Mission Fields. Ponoka is justly proud of her and her consecrated efforts.

**RED DEER**—An organization of the W.H.M.S. began in Red Deer in 1906. Presidents were:—Mesdames J. MacMillan, W. Fortune,

W. G. Brown, N. D. Keith and J. McVicar. A W.F.M.S. was organized in 1912 with Mrs. J. McVicar as the leader. Like all Presbyterian organizations these two became one in 1914 and from then until Church Union the Presidents were Mesdames J. McPherson, J. Malcolm, Irish and J. McVicar. In 1924 there were 25 members giving \$171.43.

In the report of the Methodist North West Branch for 1907 Red Deer is reported "ready for work." The Presidents of this Auxiliary were :—Mesdames R. L. Gaetz, F. W. Galbraith, E. Graves, R. L. Gaetz, L. J. Porter, E. Crummy and J. M. Carscadden. In 1924 there were 33 members giving \$164.

Since Church Union (1925) the Presidents of Red Deer W.M.S. have been Mesdames L. J. Porter, J. M. Carscadden, P. L. Backus, J. M. Carscadden, O. W. Thorne, A. S. Wood, W. W. Overand, O. W. Thorne, R. E. Jones and D. N. Ditzler. In 1950 there were 17 members who contributed \$403.18.

In 1918 a member of the Red Deer Auxiliary—Miss Constance Ward, was appointed a Missionary to China, where she has served almost continuously since.

Another member, Mrs. O. W. Thorne was elected Chairman of The Lay Advisory Council of the Dominion 1943-44. She was the first and only woman of the United Church to be so honored. In 1950 she also became the first President of the W.A. Conference in Alberta.

WETASKIWIN—A Presbyterian organization began in Wetaskiwin in 1906. The Presidents were:—Mesdames Linden, R. W. Swanson, J. E. Hogg, J. H. Knight, C. E. A. Pocock, H. Cutler, Smith, R. C. Switzer and J. Orr. In 1924 there were 15 members giving \$129.85.

A Methodist W.M.S. was started in 1918. The Presidents were:—Mesdames C. Mellett, M. E. Chandler, A. E. Millen and E. H. L. Thomas. In 1924 there were 17 members giving \$152.80.

Since Church Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames E. H. L. Thomas, J. H. Duitman, A. Johnston, W. East and F. Atkinson. In 1950 there were 17 members who contributed \$380.

Wetaskiwin was the only Auxiliary in the Lacombe Presbyterian where Union was necessary when Church Union was consummated in 1925. The others had formed their own union or continued as the only organization until 1925.

In 1925 Lacombe Presbyterial comprised 11 Auxiliaries, 1 Young Women's Auxiliary, 5 Mission Bands, 3 Associate Societies and 1 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Group.

Red Deer Presbyterial was composed of 6 Auxiliaries and 2 Mission Bands.

As one Presbyterial in 1950 there were:—12 Auxiliaries, 13 Affiliated Societies, 7 Mission Bands, 10 Baby Bands and 22 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.



## ST. PAUL PRESBYTERIAL

St. Paul Presbyterial was organized at Radway, April 1926. Presbyterial Presidents have been:—Mesdames E. A. Davies, A. Hencher, A. Main, A. Hencher, H. D. McLeod, M. G. Newton, P. Atkinson, F. H. McLeod, A. Hencher, T. Sneddon, E. W. Davies, J. E. McTavish, A. Hencher and A. Knapp.

A short history of the present Auxiliaries follows:—

**BONNYVILLE**—The W.M.S. Auxiliary at Bonnyville was organized in 1929 by Dr. J. E. Duclos. Miss H. Shipley was the first President. Others were Mrs. H. Fresque, Mrs. H. E. Burgoin, Miss E. Latimer, Mrs. H. G. Lester, Miss M. E. Addison, Miss G. Gauld, Mrs. T. Sneddon, Mrs. E. McTavish and Miss G. M. Trinder. In 1950 there were 11 members giving \$115.25.

**COLD LAKE**—Dr. J. E. Duclos organized the Auxiliary at Cold Lake in 1929. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames P. M. Sinclair, G. Rhyason, L. Lackey, Miss C. O. Field, Miss K. Mullen, Mrs. A. Derneriez, Mrs. L. Gilchrist, Miss J. Taylor, Mrs. F. H. McLeod, Mrs. C. Derneriez, Mrs. H. McLeod, Mrs. G. Rhyason and Miss A. Gadd. In 1950 there were 10 members who donated \$100.

**PINE KNOLL**—Pine Knoll W.M.S. is a continuation of the Auxiliary at Bellis which began as a Methodist Auxiliary organized by Mrs. A. E. Archer in 1921. The Presidents were Miss F. Railton, Miss E. Chace, Mrs. A. Hencher, Misses M. E. Addison, V. E. Mattatall, M. E. Addison, Mrs. J. Burnie and Mrs. A. Hencher. In 1939 the work ceased at Bellis and opened two years later at Pine Knoll with Miss E. M. Hickman as leader. Other presidents have been:—Miss M. Mansfield and Mrs. H. Mawson. In 1950 there were 10 members who donated \$70.65.

In 1925 St. Paul Presbyterial was composed of 4 Auxiliaries (Bellis, Radway, Smoky Lake and St. Paul), 4 Mission Bands and 1 Affiliated C.G.I.T. In 1950 there were 3 Auxiliaries, 4 Affiliated Societies, 1 Mission Circle, 1 Mission Band, 1 Baby Band and 4 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.

## STETTTLER PRESBYTERIAL

Before Church Union Stettler work of the Methodist branch had Mrs. J. Hollingshead as the District Superintendent. Presbyterian work was recorded in Lacombe Presbyterial. Since 1925 the Presbyterial Presidents have been:—Mesdames R. Price, A. J. Adcock, R. Price, W. C. Proctor, F. R. Harback, R. Price, A. R. Newsham and A. Robinson.

A short history of the present Auxiliaries follows:—

**BOTHA**—Botha was a Methodist W.M.S. organized in 1909 with 20 members. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames J. Hollingshead, H. Townsend, E. W. Empey and J. F. Hollingshead. In 1924 there were 32 members giving \$163.50. Since 1925 the Presidents have

been:—Mesdames J. F. Hollingshead, J. B. Groves, R. Ball, A. J. Large and R. Ball. In 1950 there were 10 members who contributed \$72.

CASTOR—The Presbyterian organization at Castor was recorded in Lacombe Presbyterial. An organization begun in 1918 with Mrs. J. N. Brunton lapsed after a couple of years. But after Church Union it was revived. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames Buchand, K. Kaiser, G. Knowles, James, G. Knowles, McKinnon, F. Harback, G. Knowles, W. D. Race, G. N. Davidson and A. R. Newsham. In 1950 there were 7 members giving \$105.

GADSBY—Gadsby became an Auxiliary in 1946. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. Glasier, A. Rowe and E. VanGroen. In 1950 there were 12 members who raised \$107.71 for Missions.

STETTTLER—A Presbyterian W.M.S. was organized in Stettler in 1910. The Presidents were:—Mesdames H. Page, Bull, D. McIvor, Bull, Legg and M. E. North. In 1924 there were 25 members who raised \$141. Since Church Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames F. T. Colley, W. G. Proctor, G. M. Ball, R. Price, C. J. Bamford, R. Price, J. K. Brennan and R. Price. In 1950 there were 27 members who contributed \$343.16.

In 1925 in Stettler Presbyterial there were 8 Auxiliaries, 3 Mission Bands and 2 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups. In 1950 there were 4 Auxiliaries, 4 Mission Bands, 6 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups and 9 Affiliated Societies.

#### VERMILION PRESBYTERIAL

Vermilion Presbyterial organizations were affiliated with Edmonton Presbyterial until 1913 when Vermilion Presbyterial was formed in the Presbyterian Church. Presidents of the Presbyterial were:—Mrs. P. K. McRae and Mrs. P. C. Lister.

District Organizers for the Methodist work were Mrs. R. B. Walt and Mrs. W. J. Howard. Organizers became known as Superintendents, and for Vermilion these were:—Mesdames A. E. Archer, J. Wright and W. A. Lewis.

Since Church Union (1925) the Presbyterial Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. E. Archer, C. W. W. Ross, P. M. Calvert, H. A. Boyd, A. E. Archer, W. J. Bell, K. C. MacLeod, J. E. Kirk, R. E. Harrison and M. Hill.

A short history of the present Auxiliaries follows:—

LAMONT—Lamont Presbyterian Auxiliary of the Home Mission Society was begun in 1909. It was named "McDonald." The Presidents were:—Mesdames A. D. McDonald, W. F. Allañ and P. K. McRae. A branch of the W.F.M.S. was begun the same year. Its Presidents, as recorded in the annual reports were:—Mesdames A. D. McDonald, J. Alton, W. Allen and P. K. McRae. These two organizations became one when all such societies united in 1914. Until Church Union the Presidents were:—Mesdames P. K. McRae and J. Alton. In 1924 there were 24 members giving \$172.62.

The Methodist W.M.S. in Lamont was started in 1909. The Presidents were:—Mesdames M. E. Wiggins, M. G. Shaw, J. Hackett, A. E. Archer, Kellog, W. T. Rush, W. J. Howard, A. E. Archer and C.W.W. Ross. In 1924 there were 36 members who raised \$299.95 for Missions.

Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames W. Williams, R. E. Harrison, A. E. Archer, W. P. Williams, C. Mallett, B. D. Harrold, Miss A. Sandell, Mesdames C. S. Walker, R. E. Harrison, Miss L. Duke, Mrs. J. E. Kirk and Mrs. B. Harrold. In 1950 there were 13 members who contributed \$240.15.

LAMONT EVENING AUXILIARY—Lamont Evening Auxiliary was begun in 1926. The Presidents have been:—Misses A. Johnston, E. Ainsworth, H. P. Price, J. Lees, E. Horsfall, K. Stewart, E. Nakano, O. Y. Soon, Mesdames M. Rose, G. Harrold, R. H. Shears, F. M. Ross, R. Campbell, R. S. Harrison and J. Riske. In 1950 there were 20 members who donated \$150 to Missions.

LLOYDMINSTER—An organization of the W.H.M.S. was begun at Lloydminster in 1906. The Presidents were:—Mrs. J. Cumming and Mrs. A. Lang. Mrs. Lang was also president of a W.F.M.S. begun in 1912. These became one in 1914 and the Presidents were:—Mesdames W. Cromb, J. D. Munro, G. Rogers, McConnell and J. Blot. In 1924 there were 16 members who donated \$33.75. Since 1925 the Presidents have been:—Mesdames T. A. Rogers, R. J. Robinson, T. J. Farley, T. A. Rogers, W. J. Bell, G. Langstone and E. N. Morrison. In 1950 there were 20 members giving \$140.

MANVILLE—Mrs. P. K. McRae organized a Presbyterian W.M.S. in Manville in 1915. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames E. Mark, A. B. Turnbull, G. Witson and M. Turnbull. In 1924 there were 18 members giving \$117.

A Methodist W.M.S. was begun in 1920. The Presidents were Mrs. H. J. Shannon and Mrs. N. Rich.

After Church Union the Presidents were:—Mesdames C. D. Breault, N. MacKinnon, C. Stephenson, H. J. Bevan, A. J. McLachlan, K. C. McLeod and E. C. McPhee. In 1950 there were 12 members giving \$105.

VEGREVILLE—An organization of the Presbyterian Church was begun in Vegreville in 1906. In their first report they said, "Every member is interested in the Hospital, and the Auxiliary has done much in contributing supplies." The Presidents were Mesdames J. D. Worth, G. R. Lang (from 1910-22), Whittaker and Miss A. McKee. In 1924 there were 26 members giving \$100.86. The Methodist women worked in this society from 1919 and it was known as a Union Auxiliary. From 1925 the Presidents were:—Mrs. H. G. Alexander, Miss A. McKee, Mesdames S. H. Irving, P. C. Litster, R. H. MacPherson, G. Cardiff, J. Jeffrey, E. Hosking and W. J. Brown. In 1950 there were 32 members giving \$246.50.

VERMILION—Lumber for the first Church at Vermilion was floated down the Saskatchewan River and hauled to the building site by oxen. About 1907 a group of Baptists and Disciples of Christ erected a small Church. In 1925 this group wished to enter the United Church and did so. From this connection Mrs. W. S. Cash, Mrs. W. A. Stephens and Mrs. H. P. Long have given outstanding service in the W.M.S.

A W.H.M.S. began in Vermilion in 1910 the Presidents were:—Mrs. Simons and Mrs. Allen. In 1912 a W.F.M.S. was begun. The Presidents were:—Mrs. W. E. McKenzie and Mrs. Allen. After they became one society (1914) the Presidents were:—Mesdames J. Law, W. F. Allan, H. G. Brinnacombe, F. Chilton and M. S. Kerr. In 1924 there were 30 members giving \$81.57.

A W.M.S. of the Methodist Church dates from 1910. The Presidents were:—Mesdames M. B. Calvert, M. L. Wright, B. Calvert and Miss G. E. Craig. In 1924 there were 9 members giving \$35.

Since Church Union (1925) the Presidents have been:—Mesdames P. M. Calvert, M. S. Kerr, J. B. Hunt, W. J. Moore, J. B. Hunt, H. A. Boyd, J. Pine, M. G. Brinnacombe, M. Hill, C. L. Whitby, M. Hill and W Barr. In 1950 there were 36 members who contributed \$275.

In Vermilion Presbyterial at the time of Union there were 6 Auxiliaries, 3 Mission Bands and 2 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups. In 1950 there were 5 Auxiliaries, 1 Evening Auxiliary, 8 Affiliated Societies, 1 Mission Circle, 2 Mission Bands, 1 Baby Band and 9 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.

#### WAINWRIGHT PRESBYTERIAL

Presbyterian organizations in Wainwright area before 1925 were reported in Vermilion Presbyterial.

At the time of Union (1925) the Methodist report listed Wainwright district with one Auxiliary and one Mission Band. District Superintendents were Mrs. J. W. Graydon and Mrs. R. W. Cantelon.

Since 1925 the Presbyterial Presidents have been:—Mesdames R. H. McPherson, A. J. Thorsby, I. S. Reeds, W. G. Firth, N. Campbell, W. E. Washburn, J. E. Stinson, J. A. Hamilton and J. L. Hay.

A short history of the present Auxiliaries follows—

HOLDEN—Holden was a newly organized Auxiliary in 1930. Since then the Presidents have been:—Mesdames M. L. McPherson, N. L. Campbell, W. Hopkins, N. L. Campbell, W. J. Bell, N. L. Campbell, R. J. Geeson and A. K. James. In 1950 there were 7 members who donated \$65.

IRMA—Irma Society began as a Methodist organization in 1919. The first mission study was on Korea because an officer's niece, Miss Edna McLellan, was serving there. Before 1925 the Presidents were:—Mesdames J. W. Graydon, L. Welher, H. G. Elliott and R. McFarland. In 1924 there were 18 members who gave \$62.05. Since Union the

Presidents have been:—Mesdames R. McFarland, I. S. Reeds, T. W. Shaw, I. S. Reeds, W. H. Osterhout, A. H. Locke, W. H. Osterhout, I. S. Reeds, E. Longmire, I. S. Reeds, A. R. McRoberts, I. S. Reeds, R. Summirmon and K. Coffin. In 1950 there were 11 members who raised \$143.94.

**RYLEY**—The Minister's wife, Mrs. R. H. McPherson, assisted in the organization at Ryley in 1925. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames O. Eastman, E. G. Forbes, D. Ireland, J. Eaton, T. J. S. Stainton, H. Glasener, J. Eaton, J. L. Hay and J. W. Letourneau. In 1950 there were 11 members who raised \$42.94 for Missions.

**TOFIELD**—Mrs. D. G. McQueen, Provincial President from Edmonton provided the spiritual spark for this Presbyterian organization begun in 1913. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames A. Stewart, R. Whillans, A. Stewart, W. G. Firth and G. Cookson. In 1924 there were 11 members.

Since Union the Presidents have been:—Mesdames G. Cookson, A. J. McCauley, J. Ferguson, H. A. Kendall, L. W. Smith, H. E. Lovell, J. E. Stinson, D. K. Allen and J. E. Stinson. In 1950 there were 9 members who contributed \$100.43.

**WAINWRIGHT**—Wainwright Auxiliary began as a W.M.S. of the Presbyterian Church in 1913. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames N. S. Kenny, W. E. Washburn and J. B. Thompson. The society ceased to function in 1922 but reorganization took place in 1927 through the inspiration of Mrs. G. G. Pybus, wife of the Minister. The Presidents have been:—Mesdames G. G. Pybus, C. Love, N. W. Whitmore, F. Hackett, H. L. Coursier, W. H. Lyle, H. L. Coursier, R. T. Wright, J. A. Hamilton, C. S. McKenzie, A. D. Richard, A. Joyce and L. W. Smith. In 1950 there were 11 members giving \$125.

In the first report after Union there were in the Wainwright Presbyterial 3 Auxiliaries and 2 Mission Bands. In 1950 there were 5 Auxiliaries, 2 Mission Bands, 1 Affiliated Society and 5 Affiliated C.G.I.T. Groups.

## LITERATURE DEPOT

Supplying literature has always been a part of missionary effort. Early members drove by horse and buggy over prairie trails and new roads to visit and encourage as they distributed literature and donation boxes.

A Literature Depot became a necessity to the progress of our Society. The Presbyterian W.M.S. was the first to supply this need by the establishing of a Depot in Calgary in 1916. It closed at the time of Church Union.

From 1925-28 no Literature Depot operated in Alberta, then Mrs. J. R. Lane opened a Depot in Calgary. In 1930 she was succeeded by Mrs. T. Ramsay of Edmonton. Mrs. G. A. McKee undertook the duties of the Depot in 1932 and served until 1938 when the Depot was moved to Calgary and Mrs. J. E. Wodell took charge. She carried on successfully for eight years and since then (1946) Mrs. J. H. Tanton

of Edmonton has been in charge and through her efforts and devotion, marked progress has been made.

The sale of literature has increased steadily and in 1950 in Alberta it totalled over \$3200.

We desire to express our gratitude for the prompt and conscientious service rendered by those who have operated the Literature Depot in Alberta.

If space allowed interesting stories could have been related of Union efforts before Church Union was consummated. This one will have to suffice. In a Presbyterian Report for 1920 is the following: "Union Sunday Schools are now a feature of our great West. In one of these the Superintendent is a Quaker, the teachers are Lutheran, Methodist and Anglican, while the children come from the homes of parents who are Baptist, Mormon and Christian Scientist."

Warm and sincere tribute is paid to the Ministers' Wives, who organized many a missionary Society and served as worthy leaders. The W.M.S. owes a debt of gratitude to these consecrated women, who provided both precept and example for Missionary effort.

W.M.S. meetings in pioneer days, were frequently the only monthly social gathering for women, and so, keenly anticipated because of their friendly contact and the opportunity they provided to supply Christian influence. Systematic giving early became the ideal way of raising funds. So through strong faith, willing sacrifice and ready hands, these ardent missionary pioneers helped to make secure and permanent the work of the W.M.S. in Alberta.

Lord, make it fit,  
This work of our hands, that so we may  
Lift up our eyes and dare to pray:  
The work of our hands establish Thou it,  
Forever and aye."

## CHAPTER IV

### OUR MISSIONARIES SINCE UNION

The spirit of service and sacrifice which dominated the lives of those forward-looking pioneer missionaries continues to inspire and motivate the young missionaries of our day who have gone out to enrich other lives in our own country or in the distant parts of the world. They treasure the religious heritage that is theirs and as if in return for this, they have felt an obligation to give themselves unreservedly to carry the Gospel to others.

We hold in high esteem those W.M.S. missionaries who from time to time have served within the bounds of our Province and to whose efforts is largely due the success of the work outlined in these pages. We pay honor to those of our own too, who in response to the missionary call, have gone out from their homes in Alberta to serve the Master in other fields.

Since Union 14 Alberta young women have become missionaries of the United Church, working under the Woman's Missionary Society, while several others have served in missionary institutions as Associate workers or helpers.

The year before Union was consummated *Miss E. Mae Laycock*, whose home was in Ponoka had just begun her missionary service and was stationed at Smoky Lake. It is interesting to note that with the exception of one year at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. and six years in Saskatoon, Sask., Miss Laycock has continued to serve in various mission fields in Alberta. At the present time she is doing an outstanding piece of Christian work as Hospital Visitor in Edmonton.

Designated at the time of Union was *Miss R. Eva L. Empey* of Edgerton, Alberta, who began her work at Radway and Smoky Lake and is now a Community Missionary at the All People's United Church in Winnipeg, where she says their endeavour is to make the "church the centre of the community."

In 1927 *Miss Florence Capsey* of Camrose, after taking her training at the United Church Training School and spending one year as teacher in the Wahstao Mission, became missionary at large in the Drumheller Presbytery and following that entered the work at the newly established Newcastle Mission. Shortly after this, she married Rev. T. M. Karpoff, B.A., B.D., and has continued her missionary zeal through her work as a minister's wife. They are now at Acme, Alberta.

From Oyen, Alberta, in 1931, after completing her missionary training, *Miss Mildred Cates*, B.A., was appointed to Central India as a teacher-evangelistic worker. Her duties have ranged from establishing new village schools to teaching Psychology in Hindi to a class of graduate nurses, and conducting rural evangelistic tours with her Indian colleagues. She will come to Canada on furlough in 1952.

*Miss Dorothy C. McBain, B.A.*, of Edmonton, an experienced High School teacher, was appointed in 1935 to educational work in Korea. After a short term of successful teaching she was recalled because of serious illness in her home. During her years in Canada her interest was still in Korea, and following the liberation, she answered the call for teachers at Ewha University in 1947, but soon it was necessary for Miss McBain to return home again because of her mother's serious illness and subsequent death. At present Miss McBain is engaged in educational work in Edmonton.

In 1937 *Miss Margaret L. Hargrave, B.Sc., R.N.*, of Medicine Hat was appointed to medical work in Honan. Because of the war she was prevented from going overseas and for a time was nurse on the staff of St. Paul's Hospital, Hearst, Ont. Miss Hargrave resigned in 1938.

*Miss Pearl Willows, B.A.*, of Calgary, a graduate of the University of B.C. and with diploma in Social Science and a specialized training in music, graduated from the Training School in 1938. She was appointed to Angola, West Africa, but was prevented from going overseas. For a few years she did Oriental work and is at present Deaconess in West Point Grey United Church, Vancouver.

In 1941 *Miss Frances J. M. Buckles, Reg. N.* of Redcliff, after taking her nurses' training and graduating from the Training School, was appointed as a medical missionary to Central India, where she has continued to make a fine contribution to the Christian community, not only through her Hospital work, but in the evangelistic field as well. When home on furlough, Miss Buckles' messages informed and inspired her audiences, especially the young women, wherever she went.

In 1946 two young women from Alberta graduated from the Training School and were appointed to Overseas fields—*Miss L. Isabelle Clare, B.H.Sc.*, of Calgary and *Miss Alfreda Skenfield, B.A.*

Miss Clare was a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan with experience as a teacher and as a laboratory technician. Her appointment was to West China where she taught Household Science and Religious Education in the Middle School at Chengtu. In 1950 because of ill health she was compelled to return to Canada and resign from the strenuous duties of missionary work.

Miss Skenfield was a graduate of the University of Alberta and of the School of Social work, Toronto, with experience in social case work and in civil service. She was appointed as an evangelistic missionary to Angola, West Africa, but in June 1948, she became ill and was forced to return home and resign from missionary service.

In 1949 *Miss Kathleen Methetal, Reg. N.*, of Edmonton, a graduate of Calgary General Hospital with experience as Supervisor and instructor, graduated from the United Church Training School and was



appointed to Central India where her first term has been spent at Ratlam Hospital with much time being given to language study.

After graduating from Vancouver General Hospital and serving for one summer at the John Neil Hospital, Cold Lake, *Miss Frances C. Taylor, Reg. N.*, of Edmonton spent a year at the Training School and was appointed in 1950 to Central India, where her first term will be divided between language study and the measure of hospital service she will be able to render.

In 1951 again Alberta was proud to have two representatives at the Training School, *Miss K. Joy Vickery, B.Sc.*, of Calgary and *Miss Grace E. King*, of Edmonton.

Miss Vickery was a graduate of the University of Alberta, has had experience in teaching and had been Dean of women at Mount Royal College, Calgary. On graduating from the Training School Miss Vickery was appointed to the staff of the Naparima Girls' High School, San Fernando, Trinidad, where she is teaching Science to East Indian girls as they prepare to take their matriculation examinations which would grant them entrance to Cambridge University.

Miss King was an experienced teacher and had been on the W.M.S. Teaching staff at Bonnyville, Alta. She had given leadership in various age groups and had directed Vacation Schools. After graduation from the Training School she was appointed to be Community Worker at Smoky Lake. Before undertaking that work, she spent several months in Montreal, at the request of the W.M.S. acting as Superintendent of the Lachine Children's Home.

#### CANDIDATE ADVISORS—

For a number of years it has been the policy of the Woman's Missionary Society to have Candidate Advisors appointed in or near each University centre, to present to United Church young women the importance of Church work as a vocation, to advise candidates as to the necessary training required and to assist in assembling all information in reference to the candidate and forwarding it through the Advisory Committee to the Candidate Committee of the Dominion Board.

Because of the educational institutions in both Calgary and Edmonton, two Candidate Advisors have been appointed in Alberta Conference Branch, who are working now through Personal committees in each centre.

In spite of all that has been done through these and other channels, there is still a serious shortage of candidates for full-time Christian service in the Church. The opportunity is exceptional—the need is great—the reward is abundant.

## CHAPTER V

### HOME MISSION WORK IN ALBERTA

#### INTRODUCTION

In attempting to write a history of the W.M.S. Mission work in Alberta, many things which seem essential must be omitted. High tribute should be paid to the many Missionaries who worked so faithfully and well, often under difficult conditions and whose names it is not possible to record here.

At all times the W.M.S. has tried to keep pace with the changing conditions in the different areas, where our work is carried on. Through it all our aim has been to make clear the meaning of the Gospel for to-day's problems and to-day's world. This is being accomplished through the consecrated efforts of our Missionaries in their various types of work.

#### BOARDING SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL HOMES

School Homes were originally established for the benefit of children from isolated districts where school facilities were lacking, and for educating the children of non-Anglo-Saxons, resident in Alberta.

In 1925 we had five institutions:—Edmonton (later Bonnyville, for French boys and girls), Ruthenian (Edmonton), Wahstao, Kolokreeka and Radway. Each of these has a story all its own. Nominal fees were charged, but no one was turned away, if unable to pay. Parents sometimes paid by bringing in supplies from the farm.

It was felt at this time, that no more effective agency had been found for providing Christian leadership in non Anglo-Saxon colonies, than the School Home. Here children of many nationalities were taught to live as one family in peace and harmony under Christian auspices.

Regular grade work, taught by a qualified teacher, was carried on in the schools, following the Alberta school curriculum. Beginners in English ranged in age from six to twenty. In addition to the school work, a carefully prepared timetable for the division and performance of household tasks, was followed, and as well there were regular periods planned for cooking, sewing, music and recreation. Bible story books and the graded Sunday School lessons were used for the daily Bible study and family worship. The whole program was planned to help the children become good Christian citizens. Many became followers of Christ and joined the Church.

Often to-day the Missionaries meet and hear from former students, most of these are well established in different walks of life:—as farmers, business men, doctors, lawyers, ministers, nurses, teachers and home makers. Many of these bear testimony to the teaching received in our School Homes.

Our Homes did not escape sickness and epidemics and were quarantined at different times for Scarlet Fever Diphtheria, Mumps, Chicken Pox, Measles and even a few cases of Polio.

In the early thirties much of the country had become organized and school districts established, thus lessening to some extent the need for our School Homes, and these Homes which had supplied the first needs of our new Canadians, were in some cases unnecessary. In many instances the Missionaries became Community workers extending their services over a larger area.

#### KOLOKREEKA

Kolokreeka, a Russian word meaning "Beside the creek," was the name of a Home started in 1909 about sixteen miles north west of Wahstao. In 1910 four children were taken into the Home, others came for day and evening classes and that was the beginning of the school in that Home. Soon the building had to be enlarged. The new addition was opened November 1st, 1911. In 1913-14 there were 30 day pupils and 31 boarders. Soon a Sunday morning service was begun. The work was slow but through loving prayer and faith in God our Missionaries generated trust and confidence and many a young life built into its fabric a desire for truth and goodness and a wish to serve God.

The attendance at the School was small in 1925 but increased in 1926 to a total of thirty-six. Six of these were orphans and were adopted into English speaking homes, it proved a fine arrangement, for both parents and children were very happy.

The school work here included grades one to seven. Two rural C.G.I.T. groups were carrying on good work and with Smoky Lake group approximately fifty girls were following the program.

Besides the School Home we had a special Community Worker here. She felt that a knowledge of the Ukranian language would bring her into closer touch and understanding, especially with the older people, so her first year was largely given over to language study. The bales and boxes sent from all over the Dominion enabled her to bring help and comfort to many needy people.

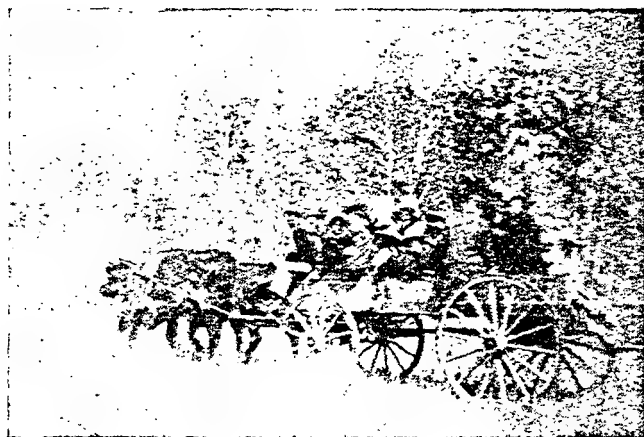
Through groups organized in the Public schools most of the homes in the community were reached. Visits at Smoky Lake Hospital brought our worker into contact with the patients, who welcomed her visits. This opened the way for home visitation.

In 1927 the C.G.I.T. group work was doubled. This year too, a car was provided, which meant that a much larger territory could be covered, more visiting done, more contacts made, more Sunday Schools started and more Religious Education classes formed. A young woman's club in a Ruthenian district was a new venture in 1931.

As the school districts became organized here, our School Home work was discontinued in September 1932, giving our Missionaries more time for the expansion of the much needed community work.

## WAHSTAO

Work at Wahstao dates back to 1904 when two W.M.S. Missionaries drove to Pakan where they stayed with Dr. and Mrs. Lawford while they chose a site for their new School and Home. On a hill top twelve miles from Pakan, Wahstao Home was built to "serve as home, school, preaching place, hospital and dispensary" and become a Christian influence among three hundred Galician families at that time without service of church or school.



*Early Wahstao missionaries going by oxmobile to the first picnic in the community—Dr. and Mrs. Lawford, Miss Chace and others.*

In 1925 Wahstao reports, "We have no wonderful success to report, just a quiet, steady upward trend and in some cases a real hungering and thirsting after righteousness in the lives of those with whom we have worked."

The groups were all active, Sunday School, Young People's Clubs, C.G.I.T. Groups, Mission Band and Women's sewing group. Meetings of the last mentioned included Bible study and service of song.

Here too, a car was provided in 1927 which greatly extended the area our workers could serve. That same year a kindergarten was started in the Home and at Bellis.

In 1930 some of the Religious Education, which had been carried on for several years, had to be discontinued because the School Boards refused the use of the schools. Two years later two Vacation Schools were successfully attempted. By 1935 our workers were looking after fourteen groups—these included three Sunday Schools, three C.G.I.T. Groups, two Junior Groups, three School Groups, where Religious instruction was given, a Kindergarten, a Y. People's Club and a Young Woman's Club.

After twenty years of splendid service, it was decided that Wahstao School Home too, had served its purpose and in 1937 its doors were closed. It always justified its Indian name meaning "The Light on the Hill," and one worker wrote, "The Light on the Hill" has not gone out but continues to shine in the lives of young people all over Canada."

Through the years this Home has been used for day school, night school for children and adults, and for hospital when needed. It was the centre for old and young, always trying to meet the needs of the growing community and bridging the gap between the old world and the new.

To the people of that district it had become an established institution and it was with deep sorrow that they saw it closed.

### RADWAY

A new School Home was opened at Radway in 1920. In her first report the Matron said:—"We are grateful for the fine building with its many conveniences, for the lovely furniture which was so carefully chosen in Toronto by a committee from the W.M.S. Board, for the many bales of quilts, clothing and Christmas cheer, which have come from many Societies, also for the sympathetic interest and practical help in many ways of the ladies of our own Alberta Executive."

Even before the School was opened a Sunday School was operating in the community, this was followed in the Home by a Sunday evening service and two clubs for Young People.

In 1922 the work was encouraging—in residence there were 25-30 girls of English, Scotch, Norwegian, Ukrainian and Finnish descent. Board sent a Nurse to serve both the Home and the community.

In 1923 another Sunday School began operation seven miles distant and a choir of young people was added to the Sunday evening service. The following year two cottage prayer services were begun.

For the first few years after Union Radway was filled to capacity and the community work grew and expanded to such an extent that many calls for service could not be answered, until a car was provided in 1929. This relieved the situation to such an extent that almost a thousand visits were made during the last four months of the year. The travel limit with horse and conveyance was about seven miles, but with a car this was more than doubled. In that year over two hundred children and adults were reached through the Sunday Schools. One of the newest of these Sunday Schools paid for its own supplies and gave the balance as a donation to the work.

The Home had also taken the place of the Church in Radway, and all the services were held there until in 1933 a Church was built, even then, many groups continued to use the Home for their meetings.

In 1934, with the operation of full time Public Schools throughout the area, the character of the work changed. The teacher was with-

drawn and all the Home children attended the village school. In 1937 it was decided to drop the co-educational type of work, and make the Home a residence for High School girls. This proved a fine service to girls, unable otherwise to attend a secondary school.

As the years passed, more and more of the Protestant families moved away. During the war many of the girls were working, and we had fewer and fewer girls attending. In 1944 the building was rented, and in 1946 it was sold to the Smoky Lake School Division as a dormitory.

#### RUTHENIAN HOME

As early as 1908 attention was turned toward aiding German and Galician girls in Edmonton. Shelter was made available first in a room and later a house was rented. As the number of girls needing assistance increased larger quarters were secured. In 1909 in the Norwood area a sewing class was held in a tent called "Rundle Mission." Here too, Sunday School was conducted. In 1914 another like piece of work was undertaken in the Strathcona area.

The Edmonton Home and School for Ruthenian Girls was opened in March 1911. December 1912 a larger Home was erected on the same property.

Work among Ruthenian girls continued as well at Norwood, Kinistine and Fraser Flats until 1921 when the group at Kinistino became part of Grace Methodist Church. Night School and Club activities for the older girls were successfully operated.

In 1922 the Home was full, Sunday School and all classes were well attended.

It proved to be a Home of help for girls of at least nine nationalities.

There were twenty girls in residence in 1925, representing every grade from Primary to Normal entrance. A number of other girls seeking employment found temporary residence in the Home.

The working girl was always welcomed in the Home and assistance given her to find a home and suitable work. Sometimes this included outfitting her with proper clothes. The girls of the Home, belonging to the C.G.I.T. attended a supper meeting in MsDougall Church every Thursday evening, and that same evening working girls of all nationalities had their supper meeting at the Home. Here they had a chance to get acquainted and talk over their problems with each other and our workers.

In 1926 the Home was so overcrowded, there seemed a real need for more accommodation. A request for extension was sent to Board, but was not granted. It was felt it was too soon after Union to plan building. Several of the younger girls were sent to Kolokreeka and the older girls continued here with their High School work.

The girls took turns conducting morning worship and in saying grace. Sixteen of the girls joined the Church in one year. Some of the older girls helped in choir and Sunday School. One went to Kolokreeka to teach music, several expressed a real desire to enter full time church work later.

In 1930 one of the girls won the Governor General's Medal, two were attending Normal, one entered University of Alberta Hospital and another the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

In 1933 there was a definite falling off of the non Anglo-Saxons attending, and the Home was opened to Anglo-Saxon girls attending school or college in Edmonton.

In 1936 there was a wedding in the Home, the bride being a girl who had spent seven or eight years in residence there. In 1937 the Dominion Board and the Alberta Advisory Committee decided that this Home too, had served its purpose and it was sold to the Y.W.C.A. and is now South Hall. It is the record of a fine piece of work well done and there is no estimating the influence for good it had on the girls through the years. Even in closing, the Ruthenian Home served a new community, for furniture, linen, dishes and piano were sent to help furnish the new Battle River Hospital.

#### EDMONTON SCHOOL HOMES—BONNYVILLE

The Presbyterian report for 1920 says; "The French Canadian Mission in this Province (Alberta) has received further assistance through the establishment of a School Home in Edmonton, where French boys from the scattered homes in the Bonnyville district have the opportunity of attending school and the privileges of home life under Protestant supervision. We hope for this Home the same success that has attended the one for French girls now in its third year."

In 1925 there were thirteen girls and sixteen boys in residence. They attended either Public or High School. Knox was their Church home; here they went to services, to Sunday School, to C.G.I.T. or Mission Band. Much kindness was shown by the people of Knox Church. These Homes remained in Edmonton until June 1928 when the children were moved to Bonnyville to be nearer their families.

At Bonnyville two buildings were secured, one an old store and the other an old hotel. These were remodelled and used for Homes. In the Girls' Home the front room on the first floor was fitted as a school room. This is the only Protestant Separate School west of the Great Lakes. It opened January, 1929, with thirty-five pupils in attendance.

Quite a number of homeless children were given loving care through the years. At the beginning of the term, there were always a few who came to the Homes in very poor physical condition, due to lack of proper food and care. In a short time they were strong, well and happy.

The workers were more concerned with the Christian teaching and influence surrounding the children, than in numbers in the Home

or the work done in the class room. One worker says, "It has been a real privilege to help prepare these young people for the future and we know He is able to keep them."

The burning of a district school in 1938, filled our school to overflowing. In 1939 there were twenty-four boys and forty-four girls attending.

The Boys' Home was closed in 1944 for want of a matron, but opened again in 1946.

In 1947 the children were of many nationalities, Norwegian, Swedish, Polish, German, Danish, French-Canadian and American.

Our workers continue with the Religious Education in the Homes and in the School at Bonnyville. They take a very active part in all the Church activities, especially with the younger groups.

#### COMMUNITY WORK

In some areas much of the Community work started from the School Homes. Our workers went out into the surrounding country visiting, opening Sunday Schools, organizing groups of young people, and later when Government Schools opened we were given the privilege of teaching Religious Education in these schools. New work was started in other places either connected with a local Church or under supervision of Presbytery.

One worker says, "The similarity of our work from year to year necessitates a sameness in our reports, but there is nothing monotonous about it." Another has this to say, "Privileged indeed I have been to work with girls, with leaders, to teach the Bible, to live at camp with all ages of youth. Life has been full and challenging."

#### VILNA

When the Wahstao School Home was closed in 1937, the property of forty acres was sold, the building demolished and the material used to build a cottage at Vilna. This was to serve as a Community centre for our Missionaries. The surplus supplies were divided between the Bonnyville School Homes and the Battle River Hospital.

Before the completion of the cottage, our workers were busy mapping out the district, learning the location of the Schools in which they hoped to give Religious Education. In a short time there was work started in localities where there never before had been any Protestant work. Where use of schools was refused, private homes were offered for Sunday Schools and other work. At one time four different homes were being used. The first year in Vilna, fifty children were attending Sunday School, there were Bible study classes



every night of the week, beside the regular Sunday Schools. Kindergarten was re-opened at Bellis and one started at Vilna. Summer Vacation Schools were carried on very successfully.

A former C.G.I.T. girl, now married, offered her home for C.G.I.T. that other girls might enjoy what had meant so much to her.

In 1940 a C.G.I.T. district Camp was a new venture and a wonderful success. These Camps have continued and girls come from Radway, fifty miles to the West, and Bonnyville, eighty miles to the East.

In 1943 our workers report going into nine districts visiting and holding Sunday Schools. This same year they presented Sunday School by Air and Mail to families in three distant districts and had replies from more than twenty families.

Our workers were responsible for the regular Church services in recent years, which meant administering the sacraments of Baptism, the Lord's Supper and conducting funeral services. These extra duties curtailed the regular community work, and in 1948 one of our Missionaries went on furlough and was not replaced. So one worker was left to accomplish as much as possible.

The Mission House had been sold and our worker had to find living quarters elsewhere.

The last report of 1950, says, "Conditions are ripe for opening work in a number of places where three years ago, we were asked to withdraw."

**SMOKY LAKE—(Kolokreeka)** Our workers were carrying on community work, when school work in the Home was discontinued in 1932. With more time they were able to extend the work in the community to include more visitation, new Sunday Schools, Clubs, C.G.I.T. Groups and Kindergarten. There was much want and suffering during the depression years and everything possible was done to help those in greatest need.

In 1935 a Leadership Training Class was organized with good results. The same year there was a re-union of some former students. Two were teaching, two at Varsity, two at Vermilion School of Agriculture and one at Normal. About this time a young girl, a former student, walked twelve miles carrying as a gift of appreciation for the workers, two geese and a chicken.

Our workers moved into Smoky Lake from Kolokreeka in 1937. This meant greater comfort and convenience. The following year the Kolokreeka property was sold and part of the proceeds used for needed repairs and conveniences to the Mission House. The 1941 report shows contact with about three hundred and thirty boys and girls, through Vacation Schools, Religious Education, C.G.I.T. Groups and Rallies. Religious instruction was being given in five different day schools with splendid attendance. A folding organ belonging to our workers was quite an attraction. Over one hundred families were reached.

In 1945 the community work was curtailed, when, owing to a shortage of ministers, our workers were given Pakan and Warspite as preaching places. More and more work had to be done in connection with the local Churches. Then in 1948, the Mission was left with only one worker, which resulted in fewer children receiving Bible instruction.

## DRUMHELLER

Community Work opened in Drumheller in 1925. Most of the first year was spent in visitation and the second year was given over to organizational work. Our Missionary started C.G.I.T. Groups, Young People's Unions, Sunday Schools and helped in prayer meetings,



*Mrs. C. Macaulay turning first sod  
at Drumheller—1925*

W.M.S. and W.A.'s, as well as taking Sunday services during the Minister's vacation. She had just nicely started the work, when she was called to higher service and this district was without a worker until the work was re-opened in September 1928.

It was a very large field, so a special plan was worked out in co-operation with the Home Mission Committee for the division of the worker's time each month in the different districts. It was as follows: four days each at Wayne, Rosedale, Drumheller and two days each at Midland, Western Gem, Newcastle, Knee Hill and in Nacmine.

The rest of the month to be proportioned for office work, Sunday work, rest days and special work in the Presbytery outside the Red Deer Valley. It was a very full program.

The following year, 1929, it was felt that a second worker was necessary to carry the work in such a large territory. With this in mind, the women of the Hanna Presbyterial offered to rent and furnish a cottage at Newcastle for the workers, if the Dominion Board would send another Missionary, preferably one who could speak Ukrainian. The request was granted and the cottage at Newcastle became the centre of the Community work. The following year the Sunday School in Newcastle had grown from five to over eighty. Vacation Schools were held, and the enrollment increased from fifty-nine to eighty-five in 1935. About this time a piano and small library were added to the cottage.

The work developed so rapidly that need was felt for a meeting place for groups, to carry on their programs. Plans were made and in December, 1933 a new Community Hall and a new cottage were dedicated. In 1946 a kitchen was added to the Hall, a special undertaking of the local women. An exhibit of handicraft of people of many nationalities in 1941 was the means of promoting friendliness and understanding. In 1942 the young groups helped to supply gifts for the children of Britain.

During the big flood of 1948, the Mission Hall was open to those driven from their homes. There were mattresses all over, even on the platform. The kitchen became a dining-room where sometimes there were forty for meals. Neighbors and service groups sent in food until the Red Cross became organized when meals continued to be served with their assistance.



*W.M.S. Hall and Cottage, Newcastle*

#### EDMONTON—STRANGERS' SECRETARY

Miss Agnes and Miss Isabel Coutie pioneered the Strangers' Secretary work in Alberta, visiting newcomers, holding noon hour meetings for working girls and interesting the Auxiliaries in practical work among the strangers in Edmonton.

The work of the Strangers' Secretary was heavy both before and after Union. Many newcomers were arriving and in 1927 she received from the Home Mission Board the names of 927 people coming to the district. The proper persons were notified of their arrival. She met many at the station, visited them in their home and helped them over their difficulties. She also spent much time with the Chinese people, teaching them our language and the love of Christ. By 1930 fewer strangers were arriving so our worker was withdrawn from Edmonton, the work remaining was then undertaken by the Strangers' Secretary department of the local Churches.

In 1948 with five large Hospitals, some of them building extensions, Military Hospitals, and a new Memorial Sanitorium planned,

it was felt that the necessary visitation could no longer be carried on by the local women and a request went to the Board for a Hospital Visitor. This was granted and our Visitor started work in the Fall. Besides the numerous visits made and errands undertaken for hospital patients, our Strangers' Secretary has done a splendid work in organizing the church groups to assume more responsibility for Hospital visiting.

#### CALGARY—HOSPITAL VISITOR

Miss Agnes MacKenzie spent twenty years as the first Hospital Visitor in Calgary. Because of her gentle, loving assistance she was known as "The little saint of the Hospital."

Giving a kindly welcome to the newcomers to the country and to the community, and follow-up work later, was the special task of the Secretary here, and she led a very active life. It was impossible for one person to do all that needed doing.

During the depression and later, fewer people were entering Canada, and our Missionary had more time for the much needed and helpful Hospital visiting. She contacted the young people attending Normal, encouraging them to find a Church home and to become active in some of the organizations for young people. In 1940 along with the regular work special efforts were made to find good homes for the overflow of students in Normal and Technical Schools. Sunday School was held in the Junior Red Cross Hospital, many visits were made to the Sanitorium and patients supplied with reading material, dainties of all kinds and a copy of a Gospel. Provision was made for Communion service. Nursing Homes for the aged and the Military Hospital were not forgotten.

#### CALGARY—TRINITY—BOWNESS

In 1947 a W.M.S. worker was placed in the Trinity-Bowness area. Trinity is in the down-town industrial district in Calgary and has a well planned Church for community work. Due to unfortunate circumstances the congregation had dwindled and it was part of the missionary's work to assist the pastor in re-building the congregation.

Bowness is ten miles from Trinity in a new housing area. The residents are mostly young people, many of them war veterans with new homes and young families. The church here was built very largely by volunteer labor and is free of debt.

In 1948 Montgomery, a rapidly growing district was added to the above work. Here there was no building suitable for meetings, but by Fall surplus military buildings were secured for a much needed school. The Sunday School received permission to use the building and the immediate enrollment was sixty, which rapidly increased to about one hundred.

Our worker has given unstinted service in the organization and work at Bowness and Montgomery as well as at Trinity.

## CALGARY—CHINESE

This work was started in 1935, beginning with the little tots in kindergarten, and then with other age groups. The Young People's Group slowly grew in interest and numbers. Our worker says, "The spiritual growth of these people is my chief concern." She visited in the homes, held Vacation Schools, led the Mission Band and helped with the Mothers' Club. In 1943 a Junior Boys' Club was formed and that year forty or more attended Vacation School.

In 1947 the Mothers' Club planned to do something special for others. They made toys for the Junior Red Cross Hospital and very attractive calendars for the Salvation Army Sunset Lodge. In 1950 a parcel of baby garments was donated for European Relief, and also a fine parcel of baby clothes sent through the W.M.S. to Battle River Hospital. Later the W.A. sent another parcel to the same place.

Early in 1950 this Interdenominational Mission was duly constituted into a United Church of Canada under the guidance of our worker, who was asked to be an ex-officio member of the Session.

## LETHBRIDGE

Work opened in Lethbridge in 1942 and our worker was under the direction of the rural committee of the Session of Southminster Church, which gave her splendid support. During the first year she directed Christian Education in four large consolidated schools, organized eight rural C.G.I.T. Groups, Kindergarten and other activities. Since her work was taking her so far afield a request was made and granted that this community work come under the direction of a committee of Presbytery. This plan enabled our Worker greater freedom in extending her area of activity to include many more of the twenty-five hundred displaced Japanese, the majority of these working in the sugar beet industry. They responded readily to friendship and sympathetic understanding.

Our Missionary writes in 1944, "I could tell you of the groups, clubs and meetings, but may I emphasize as the fruit of the year's work, not so much that the attendance at the groups has been good, or that the contacts have increased, but rather, that somehow the steady insistence on Christ's ideal of the brotherhood of man, is beginning to be felt." Again, "The personal contacts among the Japanese have been the most valuable in helping to break down the barriers of prejudice."

Much work has been done among the young and old, visiting in the homes, work in Camps, in Vacation Schools, forming study groups and Citizen's Forum Listening Groups.

In 1947 there were changes and adjustments among the Japanese, they began taking on much more responsibility in both study and social groups. In 1948 the Japanese Young People's Group conducted their own Camp.

The work grew and developed through the years, Christian Education was given in seven Consolidated Schools, the rural C.G.I.T.

Groups were continued, rural and city Vacation Schools were held as well as Camps for different age groups. Many volunteer workers were used and many more needed.

#### MANNING

Owing to a shortage of ministers in the North, a request was made in 1949 for a W.M.S. Worker in the Peace River Presbytery, with headquarters at the rapidly growing town of Manning. This is ninety miles from the nearest minister at Peace River. The request was granted, and our Missionary made her home in the Nurses' residence. The living room was used as a Chapel for Sunday Services as well as for Sunday School.

The Church and Manse were located at Notikewin, four miles away, where services were held every Sunday evening. In December 1949, when the ice was of sufficient strength, the Church was moved across the River on skids to our Hospital property at Manning, and the Manse has since been moved too.

There is a thriving Sunday School, Classes in Christian Education, C.G.I.T. and newly organized W.A. Requests for services are coming from as far as twenty-two miles away, and are answered when at all possible.

#### HOSPITALS

Much more than medical healing is attempted and accomplished in our Hospital work. Hand in hand with the physical side of our medical service, with its relief and healing power, there goes the message of a Saviour's love. Through the years, our Doctors and Nurses have shown a spirit of sacrifice and unselfish devotion to their work. For many years they were called upon to take long drives, over almost impassable roads, sometimes in below zero weather, to minister to patients unable to reach Hospital.

Many changes have taken place in our Hospitals since Union. All hospitals have been so overcrowded at times that one Nurse asks, "Have you ever known a Hospital with elastic walls?" Another difficulty, they have been seriously handicapped by being understaffed much of the time. This shortage of Nurses became so acute in the Summer of 1944, that our three Hospitals were each closed for one month. The staffs were badly in need of rest. All Hospitals are subject to Government regulations and receive grants according to the number of patients.

Through the depression years, many patients were unable to pay even a part of the fees, but no one was turned away. The Board had to assume this added financial responsibility. It was felt that the physical, moral and spiritual results far outweighed the monetary outlay. The Government grants were especially acceptable at this time.

Family Worship is conducted every morning by the Superintendent and attending are members of the staff and any patients able and caring to attend.

#### BONNYVILLE—KATHERINE H. PRITTIE HOSPITAL

The Katherine H. Prittie Hospital was formerly located at Grande Prairie.



*Dr. and Mrs. Alexander Forbes and friend in front of first log house used as home and hospital—1911*

In May 1914 a donation of five thousand dollars was received from Mr. R. W. Prittie, Toronto, for hospital work at Grande Prairie, Peace River District. A hospital was at that time under construction and it was named the Katherine H. Prittie Memorial Hospital and opened in June 1914, with accommodation for fifteen patients. A Nurse and Housekeeper went to take charge. They received assistance and encouragement from Rev. A. and Mrs. Forbes and Miss Agnes Baird, who had been serving there for four years as Missionaries and Nurse and had been largely responsible for the decision of the W.M.S. to erect a Hospital.

The Grande Prairie Herald of June 23rd, 1914 gave an account of the Hospital opening, the following excerpt is copied from it:—"We, the citizens of Grande Prairie, desire to place on record our high appreciation of the splendid work that has been done at your instigation among the sick in isolated parts of Western Canada. Through your workers, timely help and nourishment have been brought to many a new and discouraged settler.

To have a Doctor, a Nurse and a Hospital within reach of the homestead has given many a weary and timid woman confidence and hope in her struggle to build a home.



*Katherine H. Prittie Hospital, Grande Prairie—1914*

You probably will never know this side of "time" the amount of good that has been done in this way and how deep has been the gratitude of those who have received benefit at your hands."

This Hospital continued to operate until 1926 when the ownership was transferred to the Community. The name "Katherine H. Prittie" was then designated to a new, modern building replacing a temporary Hospital at Bonnyville, begun by the Presbyterian W.M.S. in 1917.

The new Hospital under the auspices of the United Church W.M.S. was opened in July 1926. It was a three story building to accommodate fifteen patients and staff. Early in 1934 a Nurses' Home was completed near by.



*Katherine H. Prittie Hospital, Bonnyville, 1926*



They were so overcrowded in 1927 that the furniture was moved out of the office and it was used as a ward and beds were set up in both upper and lower halls.

There was no resident Doctor until 1929, and the nearest available was thirty-five miles away, which was a great inconvenience. Even when the resident Doctor arrived, he had to serve both Bonnyville and Cold Lake Hospitals. This continued till 1935 when a Doctor was appointed to each Hospital.

In 1930 deep and sincere sorrow was felt throughout the whole community of Bonnyville and Cold Lake, when it was learned that Dr. J. E. and Mrs. Duclos were leaving to live in Edmonton.

Unfortunately in 1934 the Hospital was accidentally burned. The whole community, Catholic and Protestant alike, worked untiringly to save the patients and extinguish the fire. It was due to this united effort that our other buildings were saved.

God, what a world, if men in street and mart  
Felt that same kinship of the human heart  
Which makes them, in face of fire and flood  
Rise to the meaning of True Brotherhood.

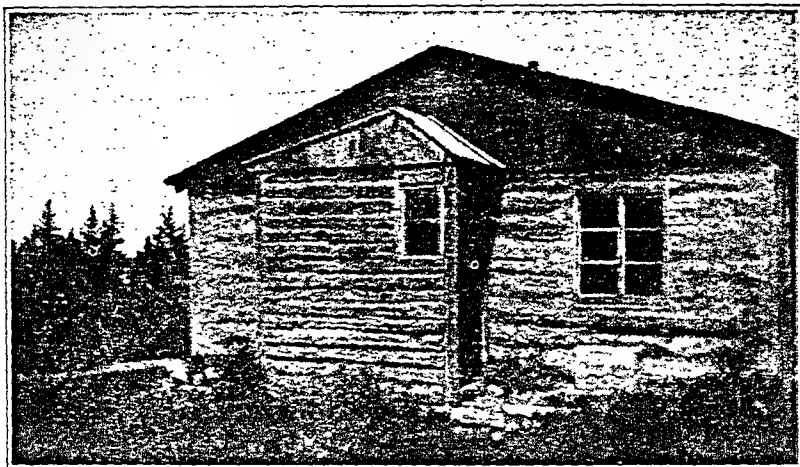
At the time of the fire, the Nurses had just nicely settled in their new residence, and were unanimous that it should be used as a temporary Hospital, while they found a home in the Manse across the road. After much thought and prayer, it was decided to rebuild. This new Hospital was opened in December 1935. After the fire letters of sympathy were many, also gifts of fruit, vegetables and linen. Other Hospitals sent surgical supplies, baby clothes and anything useful they could spare. In 1937 a fine modern residence for the Doctor was built in the town of Bonnyville. In 1938 a panel truck was purchased for the use of the Hospital and School Homes. In July 1949 our Doctor resigned and every effort was used to secure another without success. The Hospital was kept open several months with a small staff of Nurses, but since there seemed no possibility of finding a Doctor it was closed in 1950. This closing might have been permanent but for the largely signed petition from the Young Women's Social Club of Bonnyville, asking that the Hospital be re-opened. In July 1951 a Doctor was secured, the Hospital staffed and opened again in August of the same year.

#### COLD LAKE, JOHN NEIL HOSPITAL

The hospital at Cold Lake was opened in 1920 under the superintendency of Dr. J. E. Duclos, and was operated by the Presbyterian W.M.S. until the time of Union.

Dr. and Mrs. Duclos exercised a wide influence on missionary activities in the St. Paul Presbytery. Their vision and zeal were re-

sponsible for the establishing of our Hospitals and School Homes, and nine Churches in the area can trace their beginning to the encouraging assistance of these saintly pioneers.



*Pioneer Hospital, Cold Lake*

The need for more accommodation and better equipment at the Hospital had been keenly felt for some years, if effective work was to be done, but it was not till 1925 that a new building was possible. This building was opened in July 1926, the same day that the Bonnyville Hospital was dedicated.

The Hospital was made possible through several gifts. The community gave a building which had been used for recreation purposes. They also gave freely of material and labor as well as a cash donation of almost one thousand dollars. A legacy of three thousand dollars had been left to Westminster-Central United Church, Toronto, to honor the memory of a former pastor, the Rev. John Neil. When it was decided to use this legacy for the Cold Lake Hospital, the Auxiliary of the Church suggested that the building be named "John Neil Hospital" and this was done.



*John Neil Hospital, Cold Lake*

It was eighty-five miles from a railway, the country around was settled by Scandinavians, French Canadians and Indians, up till the time others began to move in from the dried out areas.

The great handicap here too, was the lack of a resident Doctor, the nearest being forty miles away. This meant that the Nurses had to assume very serious responsibilities. Beside the Hospital work the Nurses were active in community welfare work, holding clinics and health demonstrations among the Public School children.

A garage was remodelled and used for quarantine cases. In the early years there were not many Indian maternity cases, they preferred to have their babies at home.

The resident Doctor at Bonnyville was also serving Cold Lake from 1929 until a resident Doctor was eventually appointed for the John Neil Hospital in 1936. That same year a Diesel plant was installed and also a site purchased for the Doctor's residence. This home was completed in 1937. In 1939 portable X-ray equipment was provided. In 1942 a sterilizer was added to the plant, and in 1945 an infant incubator was installed. This much needed piece of equipment was made possible through a bequest to the Hospital.

In 1940 when many Doctors were with the Forces, we were fortunate to secure a woman Doctor. She is not only doing her medical work but is responsible for much of the Church work, holding Sunday services, leading the weekly Bible Study group, helping in Sunday School and Younger Groups.

For years the staff had been using a small cabin for a Nurse's home. There was a great need for a residence and this need was supplied in 1948 when Mrs. T. E. Bissell of Toronto, donated eight thousand dollars for the purpose. The Building was started soon after, and early in 1949 the staff moved into its new home.

#### BATTLE RIVER HOSPITAL

In 1936 there was an urgent request from the Peace River Presbytery to the W.M.S. for hospital accommodation in the Battle River area. The Department of Health of the Alberta Government was willing to contribute an amount equal to that spent on the district Nurse, provided the W.M.S. would build a Hospital and secure a Doctor. (The Government did not build Hospitals in unorganized territory). Much difficulty was experienced in getting plans which would be approved by the Government and could be built with the amount the W.M.S. had voted. However, all obstacles were overcome, the eight bed Battle River Hospital was built about half way between North Star and Notikewin and ninety miles from the nearest Hospital at Peace River.

Our first Nurse had a very strenuous Summer getting things ready for the opening in September 1937. The people of the community co-operated in every way possible, by excavating the basement and getting fresh sawn lumber for the rough work. The local women

worked to secure funds for some of the furnishings and a Toronto friend gave one thousand dollars in memory of her mother. It was about this time too, that the Ruthenian Home in Edmonton was sold to the Y.W.C.A. (now South Hall), and much of the furniture, as well as linen and dishes, was sent to the Hospital. Some supplies were also sent from the Wahstao Home which had just closed.

Many substantial gifts from individuals and organizations of Alberta and also from the East were given for the Delco plant, and for securing adequate and convenient water supply. In 1941 a splendid X-ray was installed, this was made possible by generous donations from funds across Canada and the loyal support of the people of the district. This necessitated an electric engine to replace the Delco.

This Hospital served a widely scattered population of about forty-five hundred people. During the first five years more than eleven hundred patients had been admitted in addition to the out-patients.

Travel was difficult for the Doctor and Nurses to reach out-patients, and for people to get to the Hospital. The Doctor tells of one very sick young woman, mother of five children, who travelled by dog team, horse and sleigh and finally arrived at the Hospital by truck.

In 1944 a small three room cottage was given by the community to the W.M.S. for a doctor's residence. Arrangements were made in the Spring of 1945 to build a Nurses' Home. This would release the second floor for a nine bed maternity ward which was later equipped by the newly organized Hospital Aid and the very generous co-operation of the people of the community. The extra accommodation was badly needed for the Hospital had been taxed almost beyond the limit of its capacity. Frequently extra beds were used in halls and wards which made it difficult for Nurses to do their work. In 1947 "Kemp House" was purchased as a temporary Doctor's office and Janitor's living quarters. Through gifts to Building Advance in 1948 a much needed modern home was built for our Doctor. A new sterilizer was also installed, a gift from the Hospital Aid.

The new town of Manning has grown up around our buildings, which are situated on the comparatively new "Mackenzie Highway" leading to the North West Territories. Some of the patients come two hundred miles along this road to seek medical help.

#### HOSPITAL GRANTS

The W.M.S. also gives money grants to Lamont and Smoky Lake Hospitals.

Smoky Lake Hospital was originally located at Pakan where it was opened in 1908 with Dr. C. R. Lawford as Superintendent. Dr. and Mrs. Lawford went to Pakan in 1901 and before the Hospital was built, patients were accommodated in their home, where Sunday School

was also held. Dr. and Mrs. Lawford were instrumental in securing the opening of missionary service in the Pakan-Wahstao area. From the home of this pioneer doctor and his wife, many other mercies radiated. At first the W.M.S. supplied a Nurse for the Hospital at Pakan and later this was changed to a money grant.

Dr. and Mrs. A. E. Archer have given a life of devoted service at Lamont Hospital and have watched it grow to become the largest Canadian Hospital operated by The United Church. It was one of the first Training Schools for Nurses to admit and graduate young women of other nationalities.

## CONCLUSION

The foregoing is a very incomplete picture of our Missionaries and their work. They have answered the call of a great need; they have answered the call of a great opportunity; they have answered the call of the Church; but most important of all, they have answered the call of Christ, ever praying that the light of His knowledge might shine through them to others.

"Thy will was in the builder's thought  
Thy hand unseen amidst us wrought  
Through mortal motive, scheme and plan  
Thy wise eternal purpose ran."

## CHAPTER VI

### OUR CONFERENCE BRANCH TODAY

Alberta Conference Branch began its work as a United Society in an atmosphere of idealism and with a great passion to help the onward march of the Kingdom of God.

Special attention was at once directed to the youth groups and this has continued through the years to be a very important part of our work. In the first report published after Union, Alberta reported 9 Baby Bands with a membership of 365, 85 Mission Bands with a membership of 2658, 56 Affiliated C.G.I.T. groups with 845 members and 13 Mission Circles with 378 members.

In 1950 the report shows 75 Baby Bands with a membership of 3,976, 110 Mission Bands with a membership of 2,367, 169 Affiliated C.G.I.T. groups with 1,864 members and 11 Mission Circles with 128 members. This shows a fine increase in all excepting the Mission Circles, and gives us hope for the future leadership of our Society. These girls are the very life blood of our work.

Dr. Edmund Oliver, a former Moderator of the United Church has said, "The Woman's Missionary Society is a great joy-producer; it produces great quantities of happiness in the name of Him who said, 'My joy I give unto you.'" He must have been visiting our Youth groups, when he wrote that, or a Vacation School, or a Summer Camp, for there we do make an effort to produce joy which is shared by leader and youth alike. There is radiated a Christian winsomeness that lives on in the changed lives of those who have been touched.

At Union we had in Alberta 11 Evening Auxiliaries, 21 Affiliated Societies and 118 Afternoon Auxiliaries. In 1950 there were 27 Evening Auxiliaries, 107 Affiliated Societies and 107 Afternoon Auxiliaries. These figures indicate that some of the Afternoon Auxiliaries may have become Affiliated Societies, otherwise we show a decrease which is disturbing. The Affiliated Societies are increasingly becoming a strengthening factor in the work and program of our Society, and we in Alberta have the same number of them as of Auxiliaries.

The membership of the Afternoon Auxiliaries and Affiliated Societies in 1926 was 4,341. When the depression set in there was a decrease and in 1929 the membership was 3,334 and the decrease continued until in 1934 it was 2,104. Then came the turn and in 1945 it was up to 3,339 and it increased each year until in 1950 it was 4,432.

The inspiration of Union gave a great impetus to the contributions of the Woman's Missionary Society. In 1927 the Alberta Conference Branch gave \$24,030, in 1928 \$33,800 and in 1929, \$35,000. Then came the depression and the drought years and the givings fell year by year until in 1942 they were down to \$24,700. Then as the membership began to rise, so did the givings and each year there was a gain until in 1950 we gave \$43,600.

As we review the W.M.S. work in our Branch we cannot help but appreciate and hold in esteem the work done by the Branch Executives and by the Advisory Committees. There must have been real inspirational leadership given by the Executives of Branch and Presbyterials through the years in order that all this work might be accomplished. Looking at all the new pieces of work begun and the changes made necessary by the changing times, we realize that the Advisory Committee must have given wise counsel to the Dominion Board in determining policies and plans for the work.

We have asked our Presidents since Union to write a message for us, and in their modest way they have done so. Their words do not convey all the devotion, love, time and self-sacrifice they gave during their term of office, nor do they show to us their own gracious Christian personalities which have had such an influence throughout our Branch.



#### MRS. A. M. SCOTT—PRESIDENT 1926-1930

As the first President after Union my greatest task was to harmonize the methods of work of the three Uniting Societies and to promote the plans and policies of the new Constitution of the United Society. This was made easier and more pleasant for me because of the whole-hearted co-operation and friendly spirit of all the members. The new Presbyterials were inaugurated; the missionary work in Alberta in Schools, Homes and Hospitals was consolidated and became the common concern of all; and the Conference Branch went forward in spite of the impending depression. Among the many fine women who assisted and gave leadership during this period of change and development were Mrs Louise McKinney, Member of Parliament, Mrs Nellie McClung, noted author and lecturer, and Mrs Chas McKillop, wife of the minister at Lethbridge and a leading churchwoman.



*Mrs. A. M. Scott*

Now, after many years, I wish to extend warm greetings to all the members of the Alberta Conference Branch and also thankful congratulations on the steady increase in numbers and the signs of deepening interest in the cause for which we were formed. No other result can so stir the heart of our Saviour as to see His children seeking to bring the world to His feet where all may know God our Father.

### MRS. A. D. MILLER—PRESIDENT 1930-1933

When requested to write a note on my work in the Alberta Conference Branch of the Woman's Missionary Society I recalled many happy experiences. I started in 1915 by organizing and leading an Auxiliary. For thirty-one years I continued to hold some office in the W.M.S.—Auxiliary, Presbyterial or Conference Branch. My first term as President was in 1930–1933. Later I completed the unfinished term of another President.



*Mrs. A. D. Miller*

My term of office saw many changes and readjustments due to the completion of the union of the three organizations which then made up our Woman's Missionary Society. My duties were made easy by the splendid spirit of comradeship and the hearty co-operation that our women put into the work. Since our W.M.S. is a growing work, many changes arise. During my term we had to close some institutions which had outlived their usefulness and open different projects in other communities. The records of these institutions will make a glorious page in any history of our work.

I feel greatly indebted to the W.M.S. for the opportunity it gave me to serve in the church. I am sure that I received more than I gave, and my prayer is that God may use you more and more in the work of bringing in His Kingdom.

### MRS. THOMAS POWELL—PRESIDENT 1933-1936

Mrs Thomas Powell was the well-beloved President of Alberta Conference Branch, from 1933 to 1936, and passed away in Calgary on July 23rd, 1947. She was a devoted and enthusiastic supporter of the W.M.S. and served the cause of missions with untiring devotion through the years. It was during her term of office as Branch President that a heavy program of building was planned, resulting in the re-building of the hospital at Bonnyville, the erection of a bungalow at Newcastle, and later in the construction of Battle River Hospital. As a member of the Advisory Committee Mrs. Powell was most valuable because of her wide experience and sound judgment.



*Mrs Thomas Powell*

It is impossible to overestimate the contribution which she made in many departments of the W.M.S. and the Church. Her natural sweetness of manner was deepened and strengthened by her consecrated personality. She truly radiated the spirit of Christian love, ever nobly



doing her part. God gave her great gifts and she used them generously in His service. Her bright spirit will abide with us giving us inspiration to greater love and service for the Master.

#### MRS. A. D. RICHARD—PRESIDENT 1936-1939

In 1936 the Dominion Board authorized the building of the Battle River Hospital. The first sod was turned June 3rd, 1937; the Hospital was opened September 4th of the same year and I was asked by the Board to be present at this opening. Miss McMurray was the first Matron and Dr. W. A. Doidge the first Doctor. During my term too, the Ruthenian Home, Edmonton, was sold to the Y.W.C.A. and the furniture that was suitable was sent to the new hospital. Cold Lake and Bonnyville Hospitals were very busy and we had a Doctor in each of our three hospitals. Mrs. G. E. Forbes, the Dominion Board President, and I visited the Drumheller Mission and the work at Wahstao, Radway and Smoky Lake. After this survey was made, the Advisory Committee recommended that Radway was to be a school for girls only; that Wahstao was to be closed and a Community centre opened at Vilna; that Kolokreeka was to be



*Mrs. A. D. Richard*

closed and a Community centre opened at Smoky Lake. This was a very busy term and members throughout the Alberta Conference Branch showed great devotion and consecration.

"Let us remember that all the work we do will be entered in a book in which the pages are not numbered and never grow yellow with age."

#### MRS. F. E. GRAHAM—PRESIDENT 1939-1942

My term of office was mostly during the war years, those dark days when the peril of war hung gloomily over us all. We had to remind ourselves of God's purpose to draw all men to Him and that He depends on us for the extension of His Kingdom. We were assured that nothing that happened could change His purpose. So we banished fear and defeatism, and determined to do our war work and at the same time not lessen our missionary effort.



*Mrs. F. E. Graham*

Perhaps the most important event during my term was the authorization of a new piece of missionary work in the Lethbridge area, where we undertook religious education in ten rural schools among approximately 500 children. Miss Hedwig Bartling began the new work in September, 1942, a few months after my term of office concluded. It would have been undertaken a year earlier if a suitable worker could have been found. I was glad to have a part in helping this fine piece of work to materialize.

## MRS. FRED MILLER—PRESIDENT 1942-1944

War days are those of destruction rather than construction, consequently all attention was given to keeping our institutions and hospitals in operation and meeting the problems as they arose.



*Mrs Fred Miller*

Doctors, nurses, and even unskilled personnel of our institutions were going to war. Japanese were being evacuated from the Coast to Southern Alberta, increasing the work in that area. The shortage of gasoline became a problem, as our missionaries had greater distances to travel.

Great tribute is due those who held the home front during the upheaval of war. Those years were not easy ones but our workers proved to be friends in need, sometimes the only friends, to those who through no fault of their own were treated as enemies of our country.

In quietness and confidence we found our strength. Doing what seems impossible is the glory of living. With vision in our hearts we found strength to meet each day, confident that God's grace would be sufficient for all our needs.

## MRS. A. P. WHEELER—PRESIDENT 1944



*Mrs. Wheeler with members of  
All People's Mission*

My associations in the Alberta Conference Branch have a place of deep gratitude in my heart, because of the broader, richer fellowship experienced in service as we worked together. One in Christ and one with Christ is His plan for the world. Here we measure our advance during the past years. We give thanks and go deeper as well as wider. One has said "Every hitherto of Grace and Strength is a henceforth of more Grace and Strength." The supply is abundant.

Let us enter each year in a fresh committment to the personal endeavour to enlist others in a glorious advance in the cause for which Jesus Christ gave His all.

## MRS. A. D. MILLER—1945

Because of the serious illness of Mrs Wheeler, Mrs. Miller was asked to complete her term and very graciously consented.



## MRS. WILLIAM KEMP—PRESIDENT 1945-1948

It was during my term of office early in 1945 that our Radway School Home was sold to the Smoky-Lake School Division and we realized that the Government was ready to assume the responsibility of education and that the Church was concluding a very important chapter in her long history of service in that area.



*Mrs. William Kemp*

Because of the evacuation from China, a number of missionaries from that field were appointed to serve in Canada, and several of them made valuable contributions to our work in Alberta. Dr. W. J. Sheridan who for many years had been stationed in Chungking, West China, consented to assume the medical practice at Battle River Hospital. Dr and Mrs. Sheridan soon won for themselves a warm place in the hearts of the people and their beautiful Chinese curios were admired by all.

In 1947 the Battle River Hospital was renovated; the upper floor or nurses' quarters became the Maternity Ward and the lower floor or basement was converted into kitchen, dining room, as well as having laundry rooms, etc.

In Bonnyville Dr. Isabelle McTavish of Honan, North China did an excellent work in both the Hospital and the Community until she was recalled to Honan in 1946.

Like many Canadian cities, Calgary found itself with entirely new districts springing up within and without its boundary lines. There was one district, Bowness, where church services were already being held, and from which a request came for a missionary worker. To this work Miss Bessie Bentley, who had formerly served in Trinidad, was appointed to do Community work. In a short time Trinity, an industrial area in Calgary itself, was added to her sphere of work. In 1947 Miss Winifred Warren, who had served for a number of years in Honan and who had spent a year in an internment camp in China, came to Calgary as W.M.S. worker at the Chinese Mission.

It was in 1946 that Calgary was very happy to welcome as a citizen a former Dominion Board President, Mrs G. Ernest Forbes. The entire province has benefitted from the visits and addresses given so unstintingly by Mrs Forbes.

## MRS. CLARENCE E. MILLER—PRESIDENT 1948-1951



*Mrs. Clarence E. Miller*

In my term as Branch President the membership of our W.M.S. saw our Home Mission Work meet changing situations. Hospital visitation was re-established in Edmonton; a Doctor's residence was built at the Battle River Hospital, Manning, and a Nurses' Home provided for the John Neil Hospital, Cold Lake, this latter being the gift of Mrs. T. E. Bissell, Toronto. There is a new day in the world every day. Let us seek Christian service opportunities, and recognize this new day in the spirit of Him who said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel."

## MRS. T. B. LOWE—PRESIDENT 1951—

The year 1951 which marked the beginning of a new quarter century brought with it the necessity of putting into effect several changes which had been made in policy. These included enlarging the Presbyterial delegation to Conference Branch, sending only Conference Branch officers to Dominion Board, and holding a full executive meeting during the year for the purpose of planning new work and of studying the Dominion Board report. Plans were also made to promote Presbyterial Schools for Leaders, of which seven were held successfully. We also had the pleasure of seeing the Katherine H. Prittie Hospital at Bonnyville re-opened in September, after an interval of 18 months when it was necessarily closed because of the difficulty in securing a resident Doctor.



*Mrs. T. B. Lowe*

Opening before us are many new avenues of service, and our greatest need at this time is for trained, consecrated young women to serve in these new areas of opportunity. As we go forward, may it be with confidence and hope that God will richly bless the work and all who labour for the extension of His Kingdom.

## A TRIBUTE AND A CHALLENGE

We delight to honor our missionaries, who have carried on faithfully and well the work of our Conference Branch; our Alberta girls who have gone as Christ's ambassadors to the far-away places and to

isolated districts in Canada; our Presidents who have entered heart and soul into the work and with unceasing prayer for guidance have given us splendid leadership; all our members who have given of their talents in executive office or in guiding our youth groups, and all who have given sacrificially that our Society might be a growing, living part of our Church, for the extension of His Kingdom, who said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

Dr Oliver in his book, "His Dominion of Canada" says, "The noblest achievement of the Woman's Missionary Society has not been merely School Homes and frontier Hospitals, but radiant Christ-like women and an ardent Christian atmosphere in the home." As we face the coming years we pray that Dr. Oliver's evaluation of the achievements of our Society may continue to be equally true. If we have "radiant Christ-like women" and an "ardent Christian atmosphere in the home," then we will implant a missionary spirit in our youth. Never has the Church sent out such an urgent call to her young people to meet the challenge of empty pulpits, nurseless hospitals, teacherless schools and leaderless Community centres. Surely the call will not be made in vain.

Do we do our part by radiating missions? Do we glow when we tell of our frontier work? Would the attitudes that we are moulding in our homes meet the test of the Man of Galilee?

Our missionaries, both home and overseas, are such a happy group—they feel that their lives are full and that they really count in extending His Kingdom. They have caught the glory of the vision of the Kingdom and it is a joy to them to be able to live a life of service. We should not hesitate to ask young women to dedicate their lives to Christian service and join this happy fellowship.

From across the sea the call of distress comes as never before; the call of hunger, of nakedness, of illiteracy and of disease. We dare not disregard these distress signals. We must be ready to share, for that is the only way we can show that we are sincere in wanting to build a World Christian Community.

When we look at the possibilities for service before us in the Woman's Missionary Society we realize that our membership is far too small. Ours is a task to challenge the spiritual gifts, leadership ability, and money tithes of every woman of the Church. Let us see to it that each one has an urgent invitation to join in the sisterhood of our Society and thus to share in carrying out the great Commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

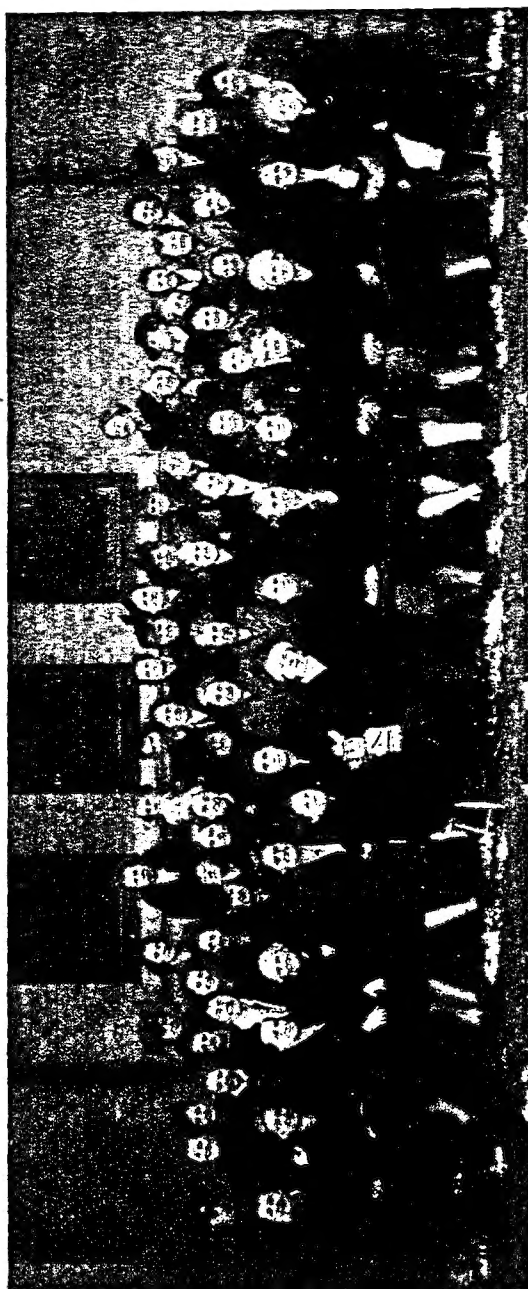
"Go break to the needy, sweet charity's bread,

For giving is living," the angel said.

"And must I be giving again and again?"

"Oh, no," said the angel, his glance pierced me through,

"Just give till the Master stops giving to you."



*Alberta Conference Branch, Red Deer, 1946*

# NOTES